BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

Agenda

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

Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 ♦ 7:00 p.m.
Boardroom

Trustees:

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

Senior Administration:

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

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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 – February 25, 2025 — Pages 3-7

1.6 Approval of Special Meeting of the Board Minutes – March 6, 2025 — Pages 8-9

1.7 Business Arising from the Minutes

2. Presentations

2.1 BHNCDSB Mission Trips Recognition
- Dante Dalia, Brantford, ON

2.2 Retirement Recognition
- Lorrie Temple, Superintendent of Education, Catholic Education Centre

3. Delegations

4. Consent Agenda

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole - March 18, 2025 — Pages 10-26
Presenter: Dan Dignard, Vice-Chair of the Board
- International Excursions 2027 (pgs 11-13)
- Student Achievement Plan/ Math Action Plan (pgs 14-22)

5.2 2024-2025 Revised Estimates — Pages 27-28
Presenter: Rajini Nelson, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

5.3 Student Trustee Update — Pages 29-31
Presenter: 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

207 (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;
b. 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 her or her parent or guardian;
c. The acquisition or disposal of a school site;
d. Decisions in respect of negotiations with employees of the board; or
e. Litigation affecting the board.

11. Report on the In-Camera Session

12. Future Meetings and Events — Page 32

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, April 22, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom

BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 25, 2025 ♦ 7:00 p.m.
Boardroom

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

Senior Administration:
Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Rajini Nelson (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer)
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 Dignard.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Bill Chopp
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the February 25, 2025, Board meeting.
Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest - Nil

1.5 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – January 28, 2025

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Mark Watson
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the January 28, 2025, Meeting of the Board.
Carried

1.6 Business Arising from the Minutes - Nil

2. Presentations -Nil

3. Delegations -Nil

4. Consent Agenda – Nil

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Meeting - January 21, 2025

Vice-Chair of the Board, Trustee Dignard presented a summary of the February 18, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting along with the recommendations which include;

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 18, 2025, which includes:

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Public Concerns Policy #400.10 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Emergency Response Policy #400.04 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Electronic Communications Policy #600.01 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves continued membership with the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association and remits the annual fee of $54,982.00 for the 2024-25 school year.

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves continued payment of the Friends and Advocates of Catholic Education levy with the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association and remits the annual fee of $1,608.01 for the 2024-25 school year.

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves GSN funding for Central bargaining with the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association and remits the fee of $44,345 for the 2024-25 school year.

Moved by: Mark Watson
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 18, 2025.
Carried

Moved by: Mark Watson
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 18, 2025.
Carried

5.2 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustees Riley O'Brien and Ryan Toft presented the February Student Trustee report. Some of the highlights among the four high schools included various Valentine's Day activities, ongoing excellence in sports, the start up of new clubs and Black History month assemblies.

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Mark Watson
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Student Trustee Report.
Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 Director McDonald provided an update on the polling stations at the various BHNCDSB schools for the upcoming Provincial Election as well as an update from public health regarding the number of students with incomplete vaccination records. Each of the superintendents provided an update on their various portfolios which included:

Special Education

Superintendent Wilson provided an update regarding EQAO scores for students with diagnosed Learning Disabilities. EQAO has commended the BHNCDSB as the reading results have been higher than the provincial average for the last two years. Students are also reporting an improved confidence in reading. BHNCDSB students in the Lexia reading program are also reporting higher results than their peers across North America and Empower Reading is also showing tremendous results. Project Prom is beginning soon which include collecting donations of prom dresses and suits for students in need to ensure everyone has an opportunity to attend.

Curriculum

Superintendent Temple shared some exciting curriculum updates. The Religion and Family Life Curriculum for grades two and three will be ready for implementation in September. The Holy Doors, Ash Wednesday and Jubilee activities are being planned and implemented across all BHNCDSB sites. Grade 10 students in French Immersion at Holy Trinity and ACS attended the annual trip to Quebec and the Tiny Homes Exhibit was launched at Lynnwood Arts in Simcoe. The tiny homes include all kinds of features, everything from stunning outdoor spaces to detailed kitchens, big-screen televisions, and dream living spaces. A five-year renewal proposal for tech classes across the BHNCDSB was highlighted and the Student Achievement and Math Action Plan will be brought to the Board in March.

Human Resource Services and Safe Schools

Superintendent Greco provided updates across several of his portfolios. Safe and accepting schools' updates include the continuation of pink shirt day across Canada and updated incident management reporting. Updates from Human Resource Services include enrolment projections, posting and transfer guidelines and a focus on staff wellness including the creation of a staff wellness committee who have been traveling to each school this year meeting with staff at each location. Next steps include reviewing the employee assistance program, ongoing proactive initiatives and a staff survey to gather further feedback in March. Indigenous Education resource kits are being distributed and renewed tech safety guidelines are being issued from Joint Health and Safety.

Finance

Superintendent Nelson provided several updates from Finance including highlighting the hard work of the payroll team in the issuing of T4 and T11-98 statements from Bill 124. She noted that the audit committee is still looking for two community representatives and a suggestion was

made to publish the request in the local church bulletins. An update on revised budgets will be coming to the board in March.

Student Support Services

Superintendent Della Fortuna provided updates from his various departments. The Preventure pilot project at Madonna Della Libera Catholic Elementary School and the launching of the Brant Community Safety and Wellbeing Committee were highlighted as part of Student Support Services. Updates from Information Technology Services include actively reviewing lessons learned from the PowerSchool breach, installation of security cameras as several BHNCDSB schools along with the launching of the safe arrival app and the upcoming custom BHNCDSB app. In Alternative Education, night school is being offered for the first time until June at ACS, summer school programming is looking to offer in-person tech and co-op opportunities, and a career coaching pilot program is being launched. A Parent Engagement night in partnership with the Brant OPP on April 14, 2025, will focus on Internet Safety and Eco schools initiatives continue to grow across the BHNCDSB.

Chair Luciani brought forward a letter received from Ottawa District Catholic School Board brining condolences and prayers for the passing of John Flynn, a former Director of Education with the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board.

The tremendous efforts by snow removal contractors for their quick action after the large snowfalls was commended by the Trustees.

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Information and Correspondence since the last meeting.

7. Notices of Motion - Nil

8. Notices of Motion being Considered for Adoption - Nil

9. Trustee Inquiries - Nil

10. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Mark Watson
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board moves to an In-Camera session.
Carried

11. Report on the In-Camera Session

Trustee Rick Petrella declared a conflict on item 3.6 in the in-camera session and left the meeting. He did not take part in the consideration or discussion of, or vote on any question with relation to this item

Moved by: Mark Watson
Seconded by: Bill Chopp
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the business of the In- Camera session.
Carried

12. Future Meetings and Events

Chair Luciani drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events.

13. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Chair Luciani.

14. Adjournment

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Mark Watson
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the February 25, 2025 Board meeting.
Carried

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom

BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Special Meeting of the Board
Thursday March 6, 2024 ♦ 1:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams

Trustees:

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

Senior Administration: Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary)

Regrets: Rajini Nelson (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer) John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco
Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

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1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Vice-Chair Dignard.

1.2 Attendance

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Mark Watson
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the March 6, 2025, Special Meeting of the Board.
Carried

Declaration of Interest - Nil

2. Committee and Staff Reports - Nil

3. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Bill Chopp
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board moves to an In-Camera session.
Carried

4. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the business of the In-Camera session.
Carried

5. Closing Prayer

The meeting was closed with prayer led by Chair Luciani

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Mark Watson
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the March 6, 2025, Special Meeting of the Board.
Carried

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BOARD FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 25, 2025

AGENDA ITEM	MOTION
5.1	THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Assumption College for the Iceland Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval. THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from St. John's College for the France and Italy International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval. THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Assumption College for the England and France International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval. THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Holy Trinity for the Italy International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval. THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Student Achievement Plan 2024-2025 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 18, 2025.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 18, 2025.

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

Prepared by: Phil Wilson, Superintendent of Education
Presented to: Board of Trustees
Submitted on: March 18, 2025
Submitted by: Michael McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

INTERNATIONAL EXCURSIONS - 2027

Public Session

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

All trips will be open to all BHNCDSB Secondary Students (if necessary). The prices provided includes flights, buses, hotel accommodations (which include breakfast and dinners for each day), and entrance fees to tourist sites, plus global insurance, and cancellation insurance.

All information has been provided in accordance with Board policy and procedures.

DEVELOPMENTS:

Assumption College School, St. John's College, and Holy Trinity Catholic High School are seeking approval for the following four International Excursions in 2027. The dates indicated are tentative based on flight schedules. All trips are scheduled during the March Break of 2027.

Destination	Date	School(s)	Team	Tentative Teacher	Ratio	# of Students Attending	Approx Cost
Iceland	Saturday, March 13 to Saturday, March 20, 2027	Assumption College	Geography	Danielle Beccari Mike Bednarz TBA	1:8	36 (grade 9-12)	$4763
France and Italy	Friday, March 12 to Sunday, March 21, 2027	St. John's College	Arts	Agata Kowalski Katie Benoit Wioletta Duffy Rachel Meneguzzi Lynne DiStefano Luigi DiStefano	1:6	36 (grade 9-12	$5344
England and France	Friday, March 12 to Saturday, March 20, 2027	Assumption College	LEAP and CWAYC	Marica McLaughlin Matthew Paonessa Andrea Capostagno	1:8	32 (grade 9-12)	$5383
Italy	Saturday, March 13 to Sunday, March 21, 2027	Holy Trinity	Multi-Discipline	Mary Sullivan, Christine Revie, Rossa Vezsenyi, Joanne Freund	1:6	42 (grade 9-12)	$5000

Iceland: Geography – Assumption College School

The Geography Department of Assumption College is requesting approval for the Iceland excursion from Saturday, March 13, 2027, to Saturday, March 20, 2027, through EF Tours.

This excursion will provide students with the ability to see a variety of significant natural phenomena thanks to Iceland's unique elevation, straddling the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Students will experience various geothermal areas including Thingvellir National Park and Blue Lagoon. Iceland is at the forefront of renewable energy research and plans to become the first 'hydrogen economy.' Students will be able to compare the Canadian and Icelandic renewable energy goal through visits to the Geothermal Power Starion and the Hydro-electric Power Station. This is an excellent opportunity to view first-hand

renewable and sustainable energy in motion. Students will additionally visit one of Iceland's major glaciers, where they will learn about the Earth's water cycle and climate change.

France and Italy: Arts – St. John's College

The Arts Department of St. John's College is requesting approval for the France and Italy excursion from Friday, March 12, 2027, to Sunday, March 21, 2027, through Explorica Tours. This excursion will be open to Art Students from Assumption College as well.

This excursion will provide students with the opportunity to increase awareness of global perspectives and foster appreciation for different cultures. France and Italy were selected to maximize the amount of art and architecture students can view covering work studied in a variety of art classes. In addition to learning about art, students will deepen their understanding of Catholic worldview through opportunity of visiting the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and the Duomo in Florence as well as the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica where they will attend mass. Exploring the art and architecture of the churches will provide students with an opportunity to explore a key theme studied: the relationship between the arts and the church, specifically the role the Catholic church has played as a key patron of the arts. Students will also visit numerous museums and architectural sites.

England and France: LEAP (Literature Enriched Advanced Placement) and CWAYC (Canadian World Affairs and Youth Council) – Assumption College

LEAP and CWAYC of Assumption College are requesting approval for the England and France excursion from Friday, March 12, 2027, to Saturday, March 20, 2027, through EF Tours.

England and France offer exceptional experiential learning opportunities, especially in English literature, theatre, and World War II history. In England, students can immerse themselves in literature by visiting the Globe Theatre, the British Library, and sites linked to Shakespeare, Dickens, and Austen. London's thriving theatre scene also provides access to world-class performances.
France offers deep historical insights into World Wars I & II, with visits to Vimy Ridge, Normandy's D-Day sites, and related memorials and museums. These experiences bring history to life beyond the classroom and cultivates critical thinking, cultural appreciation, and a lifelong connection to the rich stories and past events that have shaped our world.

Italy: Multi Discipline – Holy Trinity Catholic High School

Multi-Disciplines of Holy Trinity Catholic High School are requesting approval for the Italy excursion originally scheduled and approved from Saturday, March 7, 2026, to Sunday, March 15, 2026, through EF Tours be moved to Saturday, March 13 to Sunday, March 21, 2027. This date change has been requested to allow Holy Trinity to better distribute the trips over the three years.

This excursion has a focus on Italy's culture, language, religion, history, literature, art, and architectural wonders. Students will be travelling Saturday overnight to arrive in Milan, Italy, to explore its culture and history. Students will continue to Verona to explore its literary connection to William Shakespeare's famous play. Students will explore the cultural brilliance of Venice and then attend a mass in the afternoon. From Venice, students will continue to Florence to explore Florence's history, culture, business district, and famous architecture. Students will travel to Pope Francis' namesake, to Assis, and follow St. Francis' life through a guided tour of the town. The last three days will be spent in Rome. Students will take a guided tour of the Colosseum, the Forum, and spend a day touring the Vatican.

CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS

With these trips, the specific curriculum expectations are many and have been attached in the Application for Approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Assumption College for the Iceland Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from St. John's College for the France and Italy International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Assumption College for the England and France International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Holy Trinity for the Italy International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Prepared by: Lorrie Temple, Superintendent
Presented to: Committee of the Whole
Submitted on: March 18, 2025
Submitted by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

Update: 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 ethe currentn 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 age 16 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 action items that will take BHNCDSB into the 2025-2026 school year.

Presented this evening are the updated action items that have been submitted to the Ministry. These goals are on the website as well.

Superintendent of Education for Curriculum, as well as Curriculum Student Achievement Lead, have met with all school administrators to discuss EQAO data, literacy and numeracy goals, and continued plans for student achievement for the rest of this year.

School Student Achievement Plans (SAPs) (see Action Items, Appendix 2):

The Ministry documents, including the eleven indicators, were shared with each school administrator and the Family of Schools, Superintendent, in August. 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 and leads, in addition to community partners 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. Students that could be "bumped up" or moved forward. Our BHNCDSB EQAO data showed us that this is where the focus needs to be.

Highlighting a few key areas of focus:

Math Achievement Action Plan (MAAP)

As outlined in November, 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) (Key Performance Indicators: KPIs):

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.

On March 6th, the Math Team met with our Ministry Math Representative to discuss this plan, and he shared many positive remarks on the clarity and focus of our KPIs; the use of surveys for educators and students; pre and post assessments; the diligent work of the team to continue to narrow the work to impact student progress and achievement; as well as the use of digital tools supporting classroom and at home learning.

Last week we prepared the interim/progress report for the Ministry outlining the evidence and data from our initial work in the Fall to where we are at now. We continue to support small group instruction and interventions in Grades 3 and 6 in our priority schools as well as prepare students and educators for EQAO in the spring. We have been diligent in our work to impact shifting confidence of educators in the use of instructional practices.

Some of the key data includes:

- 100% of priority classroom teachers self-report an increased confidence in teaching math and using Board provided tools
- From SAP visits with the Superintendent, administrators have a better understanding of math instruction and are using the checklist provided by math team to monitor classroom practices
- Completing 2 of 3 PD sessions specific to EQAO with our EQAO Outreach Officer for priority school teachers and all participants indicate that these sessions have been invaluable
- 75% of priority school students, who completed a pre and post assessment in Algebra and Spatial Sense noted an increase in skills

Even though the priority schools do not yet involve any of our secondary schools, we know that there is work to be done with destreaming and instructional practices from Grades 7-10. We have targeted lesson study work happening at St. Johns; PD on the three main high impact instructional strategies at ACS as well as clear EQAO support at Holy Trinity. The survey data and EQAO results led us to make changes for EQAO prep and facilitation. We also had support sessions for students leading up the EQAO in December and January at all secondary schools. We started some cross panel work with St Frances and Sacred Heart Langton with Holy Trinity with great support from the administrators and educators.

For elementary:

- The focus continues in the content areas of algebra: patterning and equalities/inequalities
- EQAO PD sessions for Grades 3 and 6 educators in priority classrooms has been well received; 100% attendance and engagement.
- Focusing on the released questions and working with misconceptions
- Exploring digital manipulatives for classroom use

- Support from math facilitators
- Communication of content knowledge and conceptual understanding using visual representations
- Further focus on Number Routines: conversations in class with students and educators
- Continued use of Knowledgehook to collect data

Literacy Plan

Elementary K-8:

We successfully screened, all 2458 students in year 2 Kindergarten – Grade 2 across BHNCDSB for November 15th and 2006 students in February focusing on all students who scored below and well below benchmark in the Fall. 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, Ufli 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.

We worked from November- February on the small group interventions focusing on Grade Two as 64% of students in Grade 2 were below benchmark in November. The Middle of the Year Screener data showed us that we have we more work to do as out of the 1244 students who did not meet the benchmark in the Fall:

- 181 students rose to benchmark (15%) and 62 students (5%) rose from well below to below benchmark; Grade 1 students having the biggest gain of 136 or 22% rising to benchmark

After the break, the literacy team met to determine how best to support students not quite at benchmark. That work started today, with tiered schools and targeted students, in specific grades, needing support. Included in this is Tier 2 instruction focusing on Grade 2, where our data shows the gaps in learning and students not meeting benchmark using the Acadience screener. We continue to explore resources for Junior and Intermediate students, in both reading and writing.

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) Grade 10-12:

The Literacy Consultant for Secondary as well as Superintendent Temple 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. We know the results in April will reflect this intentionally focused work.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

Appendix A

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

	Priority Action 1 *Ensuring fidelity of curriculum implementation including the intentional use of proven strategies that support academic math achievement (HIIP)*	**Priority Action 2** *Engaging in ongoing learning on mathematics content knowledge for teaching*	**Priority Action 3** *Knowing the mathematics learner, and ensuring mathematical tasks, interventions and supports are relevant and responsive*
Needs	• Focused work on Algebra and Spatial Sense (Number) expectations and using the teachers' resources in the DCP • Highlighting three HIIP: Small group instruction, conversations, Tools & Representations	• Grade 3 – Computational Fluency (fall); • Grade 3 and 6 - Focused work on Algebra and Spatial Sense (Number) expectations and using the teachers' resources in the DCP • Highlighting three HIIP: Small group instruction, conversations, Tools & Representations	• Educators need support in better utilizing student assessment data, from a variety of sources, to determine student learning needs
Classroom	➢ Shift in confidence 100% of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators priority school will report an increase in confidence using the **DCP** and the **high-impact instructional practices** (i.e. teacher supports; tools and representations, math conversations, small group instruction) through job-embedded support Current Value: Survey question	➢ Shift in practice 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 Current Value: track using a form completed by Math Facilitator *Collaborative work includes content webinars, coaches' corner, number routines, EQAO support sessions*	➢ Shift in practice 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 Current Value: KH tracking, Self-Assessment Survey
School	➢ PD engagement 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 Algebra and Spatial Sense strand. Current Value: Attendance tracking	➢ Shift in confidence 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	➢ Shift in practice 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
Board	➢ Shift In Practice Using board-created materials to share during staff meetings, Administrators of all schools will report an increased number of classroom observations of **high-impact instructional practices** (i.e. tools and representations, math conversations, small group instruction) documented through a board-provided observation checklist Current Value = Administrator observation checklist	➢ Student progress 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	➢ Student progress 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

Actions our School Board will take to Improve:

Goal: Improve students' literacy learning and achievement Goal: Improve students' math learning and achievement
1. Literacy coaches screen all students from Year 2 Kindergarten to Grade 2 for early reading skills, provide interventions for struggling students, and support educators in implementing the 2023 Language Curriculum. 2. Implementing Story Champs across the district in all Kindergarten classrooms with the support of Speech Language Pathologists to target oral language skills necessary for language comprehension. The Board is in Year 3 of a 4 Year Plan. 3. Use Lexia software and intervention lessons to build literacy skills with 300 candidates each year across the district, supported by Special Education. An additional 100 Multilingual Learners in the ESL/ELL program are also supported by Lexia. 4. Implementing Empower reading in 25 elementary schools. 5. Math facilitators support 12 schools in Grades 3 and 6, providing educator modelling, and small group interventions for students in these priority schools. 6. Supporting administrator learning with High Impact Instructional Practices (HIIPs) in math continues. 7. Continuing the work of the Math Achievement Action Plan, Year 2 of a 3 Year Plan. 8. Continue to implement Key Math 3 with all special education resource teachers as an elementary intervention to assess, monitor, and provide targeted interventions to fill gaps in math achievement. Key Math is also being used in Secondary Job Skills Programs. 9. Math facilitator support with Grade 3 and 6 students and administrator support with learning HIIP in math, and implementation of Key Math 3 with Special Education Resource Teachers, will address mathematical achievement gaps for Indigenous students. 10. Following the district-wide IEP Math modification audit conducted in 2023-2024, the next steps were monitored for completion. 11. IEP modification guidelines for all subject areas have been adjusted, giving less flexibility for school teams to modify below grade level without proof of sustained, evidence-based interventions, over time. 12. Transition planning with Federal schools for Grade 7 and 8 Indigenous students, focused on consistent expectations for Core Skills. 13. NTIP consultant collaborates with all new educators to ensure fidelity to the Ontario Curriculum and use of vetted, Board supported instructional resources.

Goal: Improve students' graduation rates and preparedness for future success
1. SHSM programming and OYAP programs, including OYAP Fast, are promoted to all students across the system. 2. Committed and dedicated Board funds for tech renewal to ensure all students have access to new and innovative technology programming and resources. 3. Student Success Teachers continue to support the transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9 to ensure success for all students. 4. Continued opportunities for Guidance Counsellors to learn about career options; exposure to skilled traded and SHSM programming in action. 5. Secondary Self-Contained Programs are prioritizing the pursuit of a minimum of one credit baring course for most students in Grade 9 during IPRC placement decisions. 6. Newly hired Indigenous Student Support staff track credit accumulation and provide specialized support for Indigenous students. 7. Promote various career pathways for Indigenous students through opportunities such as Co-Op, OYAP, and Skilled Trades Fair Events held on Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations communities. 8. Offering ESL credit courses in all Secondary Schools to support Multilingual Learners with language acquisition, success on OSSLT, and smooth transition into English courses. 9. Enable access to experiential learning opportunities, from K-12, so students can benefit from hands-on learning outside of the classroom. 10. Career Coaching programs are implemented for students in Grade 9 and 10 from all secondary schools, exposing them to a variety of pathways and career options. 11. Provide access to Dual Credit Programs so students can access College level skills training and be better prepared to transition out of high school to College, Apprenticeship, or World of Work. 12. Provide opportunities for students to develop an entrepreneurial mindset and the skills needed to launch a small business or social enterprise, e.g., Student Biz Program.

Goal: Improve students' participation in class time and learning Goal: Improve student well-being
1. Full-time Attendance Counsellor- assisting those with significant barriers to attending school. 2. Provide 2 Indigenous Focused Social Workers to students who identify with Indigenous heritage and are experiencing social/emotional difficulties or issues with regular attendance. 3. Secondary School ALERT meetings at each secondary school have a multi-disciplinary team who meet weekly, to troubleshoot matters of attendance. 4. Transition support is provided to all Grade 8 students to support a smooth transition to secondary school. 5. Child and Youth workers (in partnership with social work/ attendance counsellor) available at elementary schools to provide life skill support for students struggling with transition/remaining in school. 6. Board attendance practices are reviewed each Fall with administrators. 7. Equity and Inclusion: administrators will review educational modules created by Dr. Nicole West Burns to enhance EDI work within the schools. 8. Grade 9 students provided with *No Problem Too Big or Too Small* resource to learn about mental wellness and how to access school and community mental health support when needed. 9. Child and Youth Workers provide social emotional learning and community building opportunities through elementary classroom engagement sessions. 10. *Kids Help Phone* classroom engagement sessions provided to students in Grades 6-8. 11. Self- Regulation training continues to be offered across the system to help understand student stress responses and positive ways to respond. 12. Restorative practices continue to be used within schools and classrooms to support and promote positive behaviours. 13. Addition of Indigenous Advisor/Cultural Mentor (K-6) and Indigenous Education System Teacher (7-12) to support the academic success, cultural connections, and wellbeing of Indigenous students. 14. Provide various PD opportunities for staff to support cultural competency and understanding of Indigenous learners, Indigenous worldviews, land base, and issues facing Indigenous students. 15. Strengthened partnership with YMCA Settlement Workers in schools to welcome students and families to the Ontario school system and support settlement in school communities. 16. Audited the effectiveness and individualization of transition plans across the district on all elementary IEPs, all secondary special class IEPS, and random sampling of secondary mainstream IEPs to ensure that transition plans reflect the needs of the students.

BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 ♦ 7:00 pm
Boardroom

Trustees:
Carol Luciani (Chair), Dan Dignard (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp,
Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee)

Regrets: Rick Petrella, Mark Watson, Ryan Toft (Student Trustee)

Senior Administration:
Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Rajini Nelson (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer)
John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

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1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Trustee Dignard.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the March 18, 2025, meeting.
Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil

1.5 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2025

Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Bill Chopp
THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the February 18, 2025, meeting.
Carried

1.6 Business from the Minutes

Item 5.1 – Title should be Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations of the Policy Committee.

2. Presentations – Nil

3. Delegations - Nil

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Unapproved Minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee – February 18, 2025

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
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 February 18, 2025.

4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Accessibility Steering Committee – February 25, 2025

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
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 February 25, 2025.

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 International Excursions March 2027

Superintendent Wilson presented the four International Excursions being considered from the three BHNCDSB schools. Assumption College is requesting a trip to Iceland along with a trip to England and France. St. John's College is requesting a trip to France and Italy and Holy Trinity is requesting a trip to Italy. All trips are scheduled during the March break of 2027. The number of educators attending the trips was discussed. As per the policy, students will attend Mass on all BHNCDSB international excursions and students across all high schools are able to attend all trips if space permits.

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Dennis Blake
THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Assumption College for the Iceland Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.
Carried

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Dennis Blake
THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from St. John's College for the France and Italy International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.
Carried

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Dennis Blake
THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Assumption College for the England and France International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.
Carried

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Dennis Blake
THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the request from Holy Trinity for the Italy International Excursion in 2027 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.
Carried

5.2 Student Achievement Plan

Superintendent Temple presented the Student Achievement Plan. This Student Achievement (SAP) stems from, aligns with, and is part of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan launched last September 2023, as well as current Ministry of Education priorities which include; Achievement of Learning Outcomes in Core Academic Skills, Preparation of Students for Future Success and Student Engagement and 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 age 16 attainment in secondary, as well as a continued focus on mental health and well-being including equity and belonging to support engagement. Chair Luciani thanked Superintendent Temple for all her hard work and advocacy for the students of the BHNCDSB over the last six years.

Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Bill Chopp
THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Student Achievement Plan 2024-2025 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.
Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 Staffing Timelines

Superintendent Greco provided an update on staffing timelines including elementary, secondary and central staffing positions. Elementary principals will receive their preliminary organizations on March 31, 2025, and Secondary principals will receive theirs on April 7, 2025. With the exponential growth that the Board is seeing, the school organizations will be reviewed again mid-June with the goal of avoiding classroom reorganizations in September where possible. Discussion regarding staffing for Pope Francis Catholic Elementary School was had as it will be opening in September 2025. Discussion regarding ongoing teacher shortages province wide was had. It was noted that shortages are slightly less year over year however ongoing teacher shortages are projected to go into 2028.

6.2 Superintendent Portfolios

Director McDonald provided an update on the revised Superintendent portfolios. The portfolios were recently revised to align with Superintendent Temple's retirement and Superintendent Lawlor joining the BHNCDSB.

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Bill Chopp
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

7. Trustee Inquiries

A request was made for a future policy committee meeting.

8. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Dan Dignard
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: Dan Dignard
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 Luciani drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events. The accommodations meeting on April 7, 2025, has been cancelled.

11. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Trustee Dignard.

12. Adjournment

Moved by: Bill Chopp
Seconded by: Dan Dignard
THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the March 18, 2025, meeting.
Carried

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom

REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET COMMITTEE

Prepared by: Rajini Nelson, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
Presented to: Board of Trustees
Submitted on: March 25, 2025
Submitted by: Rajini Nelson, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

2024-25 REVISED ESTIMATES

Public Session

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Annually, the Ministry requires school boards to complete revised estimates to address significant changes from the original estimates submitted to the Ministry by June 30th of the prior school year. This year the Revised Estimates was submitted to the Ministry on January 31, 2025.

Although the Ministry does not require that revised estimates be approved by the Board, revised estimates are presented to the Board of Trustees for information and feedback.

DEVELOPMENTS:

A balanced budget continues to be projected for 2024-25.

Enrolment

Overall, the Board's average daily enrolment (ADE) is now projected to increase by 65 to 12,575 compared to the original estimated enrolment of 12,510. ADE is comprised of actual enrolment reported on October 31, 2024, and projected as of March 31, 2025.

In the original estimates a significant increase in the elementary schools were captured in comparison to prior year 2023-24 enrolment as families were moving into the Board's jurisdiction or transferring from other boards at a higher rate than projected. Additional 75 ADE for elementary were projected into the Revised Estimates. Similarly, secondary school enrolment has experienced an increase in enrolment as well, which was incorporated in the estimates, whereas the actual enrolment was down by 10 ADE.

Revenue

Revenues from operating grants are received from the Ministry of Education, largely through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) and represents a significant percentage of the Board's total operating revenues.

Revenue is projected to increase by approximately $1.2 million and is attributed to mainly:

- An overall increase in expected average daily enrolment (ADE).
- Additional funding for salary benchmark adjustments.

Expenditures
Expenses are projected to increase by approximately $1.18 million.

Salary and benefits increased by approximately $0.68 million:

- Educational Assistants (8 FTE)
- Speech Language Pathologist (1.0 FTE)
- Purchasing Coordinator (1.0 FTE)
- Payroll Supervisor (1.0 FTE)

Other additional cost pressure contributing to the increase in expenses is mainly $0.5 million in supply cost due to coverage for absences in comparison to the actual spending trend from 2023-24 school year.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the 2024-25 Revised Estimates Report.

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: March 25, 2025
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) continue to have exciting and productive years as they enter the month of March.

DEVELOPMENTS:

The Student Senate reconvened on March 18, 2025, to continue sharing school news and begin planning for the next BHNCDSB Student Council retreat. Student Senate will meet again on April 14, 2025, to continue discussing future plans.

SCHOOL NEWS:

Assumption has had a good month so far in March and we are looking forward to continuing this through the rest of the month. Student council is currently planning for the upcoming spring spirit week and pep rally. Valentine's day carnations were a success with the students and the delivery and sale of these went smoothly. In school news, the Black history month performance was a huge success to finish off the month of February. The Assumption cares event is coming up, where students will participate in a 24 hour fast in solidarity with people who can not afford food as well as raising money for St. Vincent De Paul. Sign up has begun for the Annual tree planting event on April 26 and the St. Vincent De Paul fashion show tryouts have started. STEM Olympics will be starting soon on March 24 with students participating in various challenges to win.

In sports news tryouts for rugby and soccer have started. The varsity girls' hockey team ended their season at CWOSSA in the semi-finals, boys curling ended their season at CWOSSA, and the swim team travelled to Toronto for OFSAA where seven athletes made it into the top ten and one athlete even won silver. The junior girls' volleyball team clinched silver in the city championship and the junior boys basketball team also came home with the silver in the city championship.

St. John's College had a busy month of March and are looking to continue this through the rest of the month. St. John's celebrated St. Patrick's Day with green shirts and a school wide scavenger hunt. St. John's is preparing for their spring pep rally which will be "generation" themed along with the upcoming spring fling dance. STEM recently had two guest speakers, the ACE club organized multiple different initiatives to celebrate black history month, and the concert band attended the Golden Horseshoe Music Festival and earned a spot at nationals next year. The worship band recorded a song called "Journey to Jubilee", and a Mock trial has just begun. St. John's is organizing their first Relay for Life since 2007 to raise money and join in solidarity with those who have battled cancer. St. John's also participated in pink shirt day and held a Walter Gretzky Memorial Day where students were encouraged to wear jerseys and are

planning for World Down Syndrome Day where students are encouraged to wear funky socks to raise awareness of Down Syndrome. A group of students from SJC went to Greece over the march break for an art excursion. On March 27, several priests are coming to SJC to perform the sacrament of reconciliation for students and staff for those who wish to participate. SJC had a student vs. teacher hockey game where the students won 7-3. Teachers from both ACS and SJC participated in the South Coast hockey game where they competed against the South Coast special needs kids sledge hockey team and the teachers lost 4-3.

Holy Trinity has also had a busy month of March, with many different student-led events, sports, and school-trips. Student Council is currently accepting applications for new members, with campaigns for the Student Council President position underway. Three candidates are participating in the election, which is scheduled for March 28. Student Council also led the organization of Pink Shirt Day, held on February 25, to promote kindness and stand against bullying. Additionally, the Norfolk Musical Arts Festival took place from February 24 to 27, where students showcased their talents in categories such as monologues, singing, dancing, and band performances in friendly competition with neighboring schools. The Ash Wednesday liturgy, held on March 5, further provided an opportunity for the school community at the start of the Lenten season.

In athletics, the Girls Varsity Hockey Team secured the AABHN championship with a 5-4 victory against Simcoe Composite School. The Girls Hockey Team also qualified for OFSAA and are wished good luck as they represent Holy Trinity at the tournament. While the Senior Girls Volleyball Team concluded their season without advancing through the CWOSSA tournament, the Junior Girls Volleyball Team achieved an impressive second-place finish.

Many Titans also enriched their high school experience as they spent their March break abroad. Holy Trinity's boys' rugby team embarked on a memorable journey to Scotland, playing three games and representing their school with pride. Simultaneously, students explored the diverse cultures and environments of Costa Rica and Panama, gaining valuable insights and broadening their perspectives. With many more exciting things to come, Holy Trinity's Titans look forward to continued achievements in academics, athletics, and student life.

St. Mary's Catholic Learning Center has continued to promote school spirit into the month of March, with many student-oriented initiatives to improve overall school experiences. Significant progress has been made in sustainability efforts, with the school receiving a $500 cheque from Learning for a Sustainable Future and a $1,000 grant from Eco Schools. These funds will support initiatives including indoor gardening, the installation of window decals to prevent bird collisions, and the integration of more plants into classrooms to enhance student learning and engagement. In recognition of International Women's Day, the school provided information on the history and significance of the day, including a dedicated prayer and announcement. St. Patrick's Day celebrations brought vibrancy to the foyer with festive decorations, activities, and a photo booth, fostering student participation and enthusiasm. Tuesday Hot Breakfast has continued to be a success, with students eagerly anticipating breakfast sandwiches prepared by Student Council. Feedback from the student body has been actively

encouraged through the suggestion box located in the foyer, promoting inclusive involvement in the initiative. The students of St. Mary's look forward to remainder of this month's activities and for all events in the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

2024-25
Trustee Meetings and Events

Date	Time	Meeting/Event
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 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 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Assumption College Graduation Holy Trinity Graduation 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.