



# BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

## Minutes

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

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### Board Meeting Tuesday, December 17, 2024 ♦ 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)

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#### 1. Opening Business

##### 1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Trustee Dignard.

Chair Luciani welcomed the new Superintendent of Business, Rajini Nelson.

##### 1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

##### 1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the December 17, 2024, Board meeting.

**Carried**

##### 1.4 Declaration of Interest - Nil

##### 1.5 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – November 26, 2024

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the November 26, 2024, Meeting of the Board.

**Carried**

##### Approval of Special Meeting of the Board Minutes – December 9, 2024

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the December 9, 2024, Special Meeting of the Board.

**Carried**

##### Approval of Annual Meeting of the Board Minutes – December 10, 2024

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the December 10, 2024, Special Meeting of the Board.

**Carried**



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

**2. Presentations**

**3. Delegations**

Jillian Clark presented a delegation surrounding the Trip to Italy.

**4. Consent Agenda - Nil**

**5. Committee and Staff Reports**

**5.1 Trustee Expenses**

Director McDonald presented the Trustee expenses report for the 2023-2024 school year. It was noted that the Italy expenses were listed separately but included in the total expenses. Director McDonald also noted that trustees have initiated repayment for the Italy expenses. Clarification regarding the communications line of reporting was discussed.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

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

**Carried**

**5.2 Student Trustee Report**

Student Trustees Riley O'Brien and Ryan Toft presented their second student trustee report. The athletic achievements of the fall sports teams were highlighted along with the launch of the winter sports teams across all three high schools. Semi-formals were held at ACS, Holy Trinity and St. John's with great success along with Christmas events. Outreach initiatives included the Angel campaign at St. John's and St. Mary's, the 12 Days of Giving Tree and Coats for Kids at Holy Trinity and Pennies from Heaven at Assumption.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

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

**Carried**

**6. Information and Correspondence – Nil**

**7. Notices of Motion - Nil**

**8. Notices of Motion being Considered for Adoption**

Trustee Blake put forward two notices of motion:

**8.1** That the Board reaffirms its commitment to transparency and accountability by agreeing to release all expense documents, including all receipts, related to the said Italy trip upon request. This process will be carried out without any redactions, as well as bypassing the Freedom of Information Act.

There was no seconder, therefore the motion was not brought before the meeting.

**8.2** That the Board discontinues using Border Ladner and Gervais Law firm and its crisis management team or any other law or consulting firm regarding the Italy trip. Furthermore, we have an itemized cost to date by the next Board meeting.

There was no seconder, therefore the motion was not brought before the meeting.



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### 9. Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Dignard inquired about future Policy committee meeting dates. Discussion regarding the ongoing shortage of teachers and supports in place for Emergency Instructions was had.

### 10. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Dennis Blake

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 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 December 17, 2024 Board meeting.

**Carried**

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**Next meeting:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom