



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Board Meeting May 27, 2025 ♦ 7:00 p.m. Boardroom

Trustees:

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

Regrets: Rick Petrella (on leave)

Senior Administration:

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

1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened in prayer by Trustee Dignard.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the May 27, 2025, Board meeting.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest - Nil

1.5 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2025

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the April 22, 2025, Meeting of the Board.

Carried

1.6 Approval of Special Meeting of the Board Minutes – May 13, 2025

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the May 13, 2025, Special Meeting of the Board.

Carried

1.7 Approval of Special Meeting of the Board Minutes – May 20, 2025

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the May 20, 2025, Special Meeting of the Board.

Carried



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1.8 Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil

2. Presentations

- 2.1** The Board proudly recognized Gisèle Budgell, Program Director Brant Food for Thought. Brant Food for Thought is the lead charitable organization that supports and facilitates Universal Student Nutrition Programs in elementary and secondary schools in the City of Brantford and the County of Brant. Gisele has been the program director at Brant Food for Thought since 2006 and has overseen the expansion of the program to reach over 12,000 students annually. Throughout her tenure, she has promoted social justice by ensuring all children have equal access to nutritious foods which in turn contributes to successful learning in the classroom. Gisele's tremendous leadership led by her warmth and sincerity along with her unwavering commitment to do what is right for students has helped shape the program into what it is today.

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 - May 20, 2025

Vice-Chair of the Board, Trustee Dignard presented a summary of the May 20, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting. Trustee Blake requested to have item one of 5.1 and item nine of 5.1 removed and voted on separately.

THAT legacy provisions be implemented to permit currently enrolled Grade 5 and 6 students (2024–25 school year) at affected schools to remain at their existing school through to Grade 8.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Home School Policy #200.16 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Home Instruction Policy #200.17 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT Committee of the Whole refers the Student Clubs Administrative Procedure #200.44 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT Committee of the Whole refers the Opening/ Closing Exercises Administrative Procedure #200.11 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT Committee of the Whole refers the Head Lice (Pediculosis) Policy #200.20 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Employee Expenses Policy #700.04 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 20, 2025.

Carried



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Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting with the exception of items 5.1.1 and 5.1.9 of May 20, 2025.

Carried

Trustee Blake made a motion to have a separate vote on item 1 in 5.1 (THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the amended school attendance boundaries for Norfolk County, as outlined in Figure 2, effective September 2026) only, as there was a request for additional information.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

Carried

Director McDonald presented the additional information requested including transportation time for the amended boundaries and the number of families in areas 15 and 22. If the border was changed in area nine there would be four students impacted, and eight students in area 24 if the boarder was changed.

Trustee Blake moved to amend the motion.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the amended school attendance boundaries for Norfolk County, as outlined in Figure 2, with changes to Area 9 to modify St. Francis School Boundary to align with Hawtrey Road rather than Swimming Pool Road; and to modify Area 24 to St. Joseph school boundary to extend from Culver road to Norfolk street; and modify Area 25 to St. Cecilia school boundary to include the area from Norfolk Street South to Blueline Road East and St. John's Road to the South and Lynn Valley road to the north, effective September 2026.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

Carried

Discussion was had regarding the number of students impacted in each of the areas. It was determined that there will be minimal impact in terms of balancing the school populations, as is the goal of the elementary school boundary review.

Chair Luciani put the motion to a vote.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the amended school attendance boundaries for Norfolk County, as outlined in Figure 2, with changes to Area 9 to modify St. Francis School Boundary to align with Hawtrey Road rather than Swimming Pool Road; and to modify Area 24 to St. Joseph school boundary to extend from Culver road to Norfolk street; and modify Area 25 to St. Cecilia school boundary to include the area from Norfolk Street South to Blueline Road East and St. John's Road to the South and Lynn Valley road to the north, effective September 2026.

Carried



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Trustee Blake made a motion for item nine of 5.1 (THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Procurement Policy #700.01 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval) to be removed and voted on separately as additional information was requested. There was no seconder.

Chair Luciani called the original motion,

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Procurement Policy #700.01 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

Carried

5.2 Student Trustee Election Results

Superintendent Lawlor presented the results of the Student Trustee Election. Two Student Trustees, elected by their peers, sit on the Board of Trustees to participate in the governance of the BHNCD SB, advocating for all elementary and secondary school pupils. On May 6, 2025, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board (BHNCD SB) elected its two Student Trustees, Riley O'Brien and Mulan How, for the 2025-2026 school year. Riley and Mulan are high-achieving students who are actively involved in their school communities who demonstrate great leadership at the system and school level.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the 2025- 2026 Student Trustee Election Results Report.

Carried

5.3 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustees Riley O'Brien and Ryan Toft presented the student trustee report for the month of May. Assumption College School has had a successful May that featured student council, sporting, and social events throughout the month. Some of the highlights included a spring spirit week, staff appreciation day, a Faith over Fear night, spring concerts, prom planning, and the upcoming grade 12 drama presentation of "The Outsiders". St. John's College has continued to embrace the spring spirit as they transition from April to May with many student council activities, sporting accomplishments, and social events. Some the highlights included a pep rally in support of the upcoming Relay for Life, a spring dance, the mock trial team competed in the district tournament, the ACE club promoted Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the STEM club is gearing up for the Science Olympics at Western University and the drama department successfully wrapped up their production of 12 Angry Jurors. Holy Trinity has experienced several notable school events, sporting accomplishments, and club activities throughout the month of May. Highlights include Spring Spirit Week, Leaders Leading Leaders Day and Spirit of the Titan awards. Some of the highlights from the sports teams across the three high schools include AABHN titles in track and field, girls' and boys' soccer, girls' and boys' rugby, and track and field. The girls' rugby teams from ACS and Holy Trinity competed at CWOSSA and ACS earned their first ever CWOSSA girls rugby title. The remainder of the sports teams will be competing at CWOSSA soon. St. Mary's continued with their spring spirit as they transitioned from April to May. Some of the activities included chalk it up for mental health, the start of cooking and baking classes, an ecology initiative along with continued academic and social success.



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Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence- Nil

- 6.1** All of the Superintendents provided updates on the initiatives and success stories from their various departments. A request was made for communication updates to be included in the next update.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

Carried

7. Notices of Motion – Nil

Trustee Blake put forward the following motion:

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board rescinds the following from Item 6.10.2.4 in the Board By-Laws, *"Copies of the presentation shall be shared with the Board or Committee 15 days in advance of the proposed date of presentation, failure to do so will result in the cancellation of the scheduled presentation"*

8. Notices of Motion being Considered for Adoption - Nil

9. Trustee Inquiries- Nil

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: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns May 27, 2025, Board meeting.

Carried