



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK  
**Catholic District School Board**

**Minutes**

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

**Budget Committee**  
**Wednesday, June 11, 2025 – 3:30 p.m.**  
**Boardroom / Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Trustee Members:**

Dennis Blake (Chair), Dan Dignard, Carol Luciani, Mark Watson

**Senior Administration and Staff Members**

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

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**1. Opening Business**

**1.1 Opening Prayer**

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Chair Blake.

**1.2 Attendance**

Attendance was noted as above.

**1.3 Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Budget Committee approves the Agenda of June 11, 2025.

**Carried**

**1.4 Declaration of Interest: Nil.**

**1.5 Approval of the Minutes of July 26, 2024**

Moved by: Mark Watson

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Budget Committee approves the Minutes of July 26, 2024.

**Carried**

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

**2. Staff Reports & Information Items**

**2.1 2025-26 Operating Budget Process**

Superintendent Nelson opened the meeting by providing insight on the current progress of the 2025-26 budget development. School boards are expected to meet the Ministry's extended deadline of July 31, 2025. Superintendent Nelson commended the efforts of the senior team and staff for their work during this ongoing budget process.



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The Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding by the Ministry was announced later than it had been in previous years. School boards are encouraged to submit on June 30, 2025, as originally noted, but extensions have been granted on a request basis. Following the draft budget presentation to the budget committee the administration is expecting a special board meeting in July for the approval of the overall budget before submission to the Ministry.

Links were provided to share in depth details pertaining to key investments for the 2025-26 school year set out by the Ministry of Education. In addition, a separate link was made available to explore the formulas, calculations and allocations.

Overall, the Core Education funding for the province shows an increase of 3.3% compared to the current year. The primary areas being labour related changes, transportation, internal audit and Education and Community Partnership Program (ECP).

The core funding and changes for the upcoming year were analyzed. The confirmed Responsive Education Programs (REP) funding available for the Board was presented.

Discussion regarding the REP funding model around salaries in Appendix B was had. It was noted that permanent staff salaries are not generally funded through the REP's. It was also noted that there are no significant changes to the REPs for the 2025-2026 school year.

Historical and preliminary projected enrolment data was exhibited. In summary, the Board's Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) is projected to increase by approximately 147 students.

The Board is currently projecting to have a balanced budget for the 2025-26 school year.

Throughout the remainder of the budget process, the staff will continue to provide further details and any significant changes to the Board.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Budget Committee recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the 2025-26 Estimates Report for information.

**3. Trustee Inquiries:** Nil.

**4. Business of the In-Camera Session:**

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Budget Committee moves to an In-Camera Session.

**5. Report on the In-Camera Session:**

Moved by: Mark Watson

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Budget Committee approves the business of the In-Camera session.

**Carried**



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**6. Future Meetings**

Chair Blake noted that the next Budget Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

**7. Adjournment**

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Budget Committee adjourns the meeting of June 11, 2025.

**Carried**

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**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, July 22, 2025