



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Budget Committee
Thursday, February 12, 2026 – 4:30 p.m.
Boardroom / Microsoft Teams

Present:

Dennis Blake (Chair), Carol Luciani (Trustee), Toni Poirier (Trustee), Dan Dignard (Trustee)
Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary)
Rajini Nelson (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer)
Rajbir Badh (Manager of Budgets & Finance)
John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Michael Lawlor, Phil Wilson (Superintendent of Education)
Rajbir Badh (Manager of Budgets & Finance)
Katherine Reddicliffe (Recording Secretary)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Land Acknowledgment

Superintendent Wilson led us with the land acknowledgement.

1.2 Opening Prayer

Chair Blake led the meeting with an opening prayer.

1.3 Attendance

Attendance was noted as above.

1.4 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Budget Committee approves the Agenda of February 12, 2026.

Carried

1.5 Declaration of Interest:

Trustees Dan Dignard and Toni Poirier declared a conflict of interest on agenda item 2.1 due to familial conflicts. They did not participate in the discussion or vote on the matter.

1.6 Approval of the Minutes of July 22, 2025

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Budget Committee approves the Minutes of July 22, 2025.

Carried

1.7 Business Arising from the Minutes: Nil



2. Staff Reports & Information Items

2.1 2025-26 Revised Estimates

Overall, the Board continues to project a balanced budget for the 2025–26 school year.

Enrolment remains strong. Our Average Daily Enrolment is now projected at 12,867 students, which is about 94 students higher than our original estimate and includes Visa students. These revised numbers are based on actual enrolment as of October 31, 2025, along with projections through March 31, 2026. While enrolment has been trending upward, most of this growth was already anticipated, with the additional increase spread across both elementary and secondary schools.

On the revenue side, the majority of our funding continues to come from Ministry operating grants, primarily through Core Education Funding. As a result of the higher enrolment, total revenues are now expected to increase by approximately \$881,000.

Expenditures have been adjusted to reflect staffing needs and rising operational costs, while still maintaining a balanced budget. Overall expenses are also projected to increase by about \$881,000.

Salary and benefit costs are expected to rise by approximately \$300,000, mainly due to the addition of a Vice Principal to support enrolment growth, Attendance Support staff to meet Ministry attendance requirements, and additional custodial support for the joint Caledonia school.

Other cost increases are largely related to sick leave coverage based on current trends, anticipated legal costs, and inflationary pressures affecting supplies and contracted services.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Budget Committee refers the 2025-26 Revised Estimates Report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

2.2 2026-27 Budget Timeline

The Board must submit its annual budget to the Ministry of Education by June 30. For the 2026–2027 budget, planning will begin in February 2026, with the draft budget presented to the Budget Committee in mid-June and final Board approval scheduled for June 23, 2026.

The budget development process will follow previous years, led by the Finance Department in collaboration with external planning resources and academic and operational teams. Timelines are subject to the release of the Ministry's Core Education Funding announcement. Enrolment projections will use the best available data, with staffing allocations confirmed by mid-March 2026.

Public consultation will include an online survey open from March 15, 2026, for four weeks. The Budget Committee is expected to meet as required prior to final Board approval.



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Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Budget Committee refers the 2026-27 Budget Plan/Timeline to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

3. Future Meetings

Chair Blake noted that the next Budget Committee Meeting will take place in the month of May.

4. Adjournment

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Budget Committee adjourns the meeting of February 12, 2026.

Carried

Next Meeting: May 2026