



# **BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board**

## **Minutes**

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

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### **Committee of the Whole Tuesday, May 20, 2025 ♦ 7:00 pm 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)

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#### **1. Opening Business**

##### **1.1 Opening Prayer**

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Chair Luciani.

##### **1.2 Attendance**

Attendance was as noted above.

##### **1.3 Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the May 20, 2025, meeting.

**Carried**

##### **1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil**

##### **1.5 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – April 15, 2025**

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the April 15, 2025, meeting.

**Carried**

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

#### **2. Presentations – Nil**

#### **3. Delegations - Nil**

#### **4. Consent Agenda**

##### **4.1 Unapproved Minutes from the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee – April 14, 2025**

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of April 14, 2025.

**Carried**



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### **4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee – April 15, 2025**

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

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 April 15, 2025.

**Carried**

### **4.3 Unapproved Minutes from the Accommodations Committee – May 12, 2025**

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

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

**Carried**

## **5. Committee and Staff Reports**

### **5.1 Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations from the Policy Committee Meeting – May 13, 2025**

Vice-Chair Dignard presented the unapproved minutes and recommendations from the Policy Committee meeting. Trustee Blake requested that the Home School Policy #200.16 and the Procurement Policy #700.01 be voted on separately.

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

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of May 13, 2025, to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

**Carried**



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### **Home School Policy #200.16**

Trustee Blake made the recommendation for the opening sentence to be added back to the policy as it speaks to Catholic Education. Superintendent Della Fortuna confirmed he would reword the sentence and have it added back into the policy.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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

**Carried as Amended**

### **Procurement Policy #700.01**

Trustee Blake requested a friendly amendment to the policy to have purchases approved by the Director of Education with a cost between \$100,000 and \$200,000, brought to the board periodically as information. Superintendent Nelson confirmed she would bring this back as information.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Mark Watson

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

**Carried as Amended**

## **5.2 Norfolk County Boundary Review**

Director McDonald presented Jack Ammendolia from Watson's and Associates. Mr. Ammendolia discussed the process for the boundary review including the establishing of an Attendance Boundary Review Committee including senior administration, principals, parent representatives and transportation staff. Various committee meetings along with a public consultation meeting were had. Various options were reviewed and considered given the overcrowding at some schools and the available space at others. The recommendation of the ABRC is to proceed with option 1 effective September 2026. The recommendation also approves legacy provisions for students currently in grades 5&6 who will be in grades 7&8 when the changes take effect. A variety of options, transportation times, and geographical areas were discussed including the number of students in each geographical area that would be moving. Mr. Ammendolia confirmed that there was parent representation from all the schools involved along with consultation with transportation staff regarding time spent on the bus. The attendance boundary review committee deliberated about various options ultimately deciding that option 1 was the most effective in balancing enrolment and would cause the least amount of disruption to families. The following was requested to be brought back to the Board meeting for further discussion. The first request was regarding the number of students in area four and how that would change if the boundary was moved from Swimming Pool Road to Hawtrey Rd. The second request was to consider alternatives for students in Area 25. The third request was to have transportation times in areas 4, 6, 7 and 34 provided. The final request was to clarify whether transportation is included for siblings of legacy students who will be in grades 7 & 8 in September 2026.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

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.

**Carried**



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Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

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.

**Carried**

### **6. Information and Correspondence**

#### **6.1 Student Trustee Election**

Superintendent Lawlor provided an update on the recent student trustee election. Riley O'Brien from Assumption College and Mulan How from St. John's College were elected by their peers as the 2025-2026 Student Trustees.

#### **6.2 Catholic Education Week Update**

Superintendent Lawlor provided a recap on Catholic Education week activities that took place across the system. The Catholic Education Week theme was inspired by the Jubilee year theme, Pilgrims of Hope – proclaimed this year by our late Holy Father Pope Francis. Some of the activities included the Catholic Leadership Symposium and Awards, Flat Luce's Jubilee Journey, Pilgrimage materials provided to schools, the Celebration of the Arts and chalking artwork displays.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Mark Watson

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 - Nil**

### **8. Business In-Camera**

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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: Mark Watson

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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.

### **11. Closing Prayer**

The closing prayer was led by Chair Luciani.



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#### **12. Adjournment**

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the May 20, 2025, meeting.

**Carried**

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**Next meeting:** Tuesday, June 17, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom