



**BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board**

Minutes

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

**Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, May 26, 2026 ♦ 4:30 pm
Boardroom**

Trustees:

Carol Luciani (Chair), Bill Chopp (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Dan Dignard, Toni Poirier
Rick Petrella (on-leave) Mulan How (Student Trustee), Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee)

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 Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was opened with a land acknowledgement by Student Trustee, Riley O'Brien.

1.2 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Trustee Blake.

1.3 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

1.4 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the May 26, 2026, meeting.

Carried

1.5 Declaration of Interest – Nil

1.6 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – April 28, 2026

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the April 28, 2026, meeting.

Carried

1.7 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 Meeting – March 30, 2026

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 March 30, 2026.

Carried

4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Faith Advisory Committee – April 16, 2026

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 Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of April 16, 2026.

Carried

4.3 Unapproved Minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee – April 21, 2026

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 21, 2026.

Carried

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 Student Trustee Election Results

Superintendent Lawlor presented the 2026/2027 Student Trustee Election results. The criteria for a student trustee was noted, along with the election process. The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board (BHNCD SB) elected its two Student Trustees, Jenna Ogwu and (Pip) Joshua Ocampo, for the 2026-2027 school year on May 5, 2026. Jenna and Joshua are high achieving students who have demonstrated great leadership at the system and school level. Jenna, a Grade 11 student at Assumption College School, is a current Student Senator and has been a member of her secondary school's Student Council since Grade 9. Joshua, a Grade 10 student at Assumption College School is an engaging leader who currently serves on the BHNCD SB Student Senate and has been a member of his school's Student Council for two years.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Student Trustee 2026-2027 Election Report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.2 Artificial Intelligence in Teaching, Learning and Operations Report

Superintendent Della Fortuna and Superintendent Wilson presented the Artificial Intelligence in Teaching, Learning and Operations Report. The Board has developed and shared both the AI Guidelines – Corporate and the AI Guidelines – For Educators to support the responsible implementation of Artificial Intelligence across the system. These documents provide direction regarding the ethical and appropriate use of AI, protection of student privacy, cyber safety and



cyber security, academic integrity, and the professional use of AI tools, while also ensuring alignment with Ministry of Education expectations. The guidelines are intended to support both operational and instructional applications of AI and ensure that the Board's approach remains grounded in Catholic values, responsible digital citizenship, and a continued commitment to student well-being.

Discussion was had around digital literacy and the importance of teaching students how to operate in the world they live in, as well as career planning and the implications of AI on future employment opportunities. A question was asked if the AI guidelines should be a policy. It was noted that a policy was considered, however the board undertook the stance of using guidelines as a policy would be out of date upon issue, given how quickly AI is changing. Staff noted that the Board remains committed to ensuring Artificial Intelligence is used in ways that enhance learning, support staff, and reflect the values and mission of Catholic education.

Moved by: Toni Poirier

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Artificial Intelligence in Teaching, Learning and Operations report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.3 Brantford Secondary School Attendance Boundary Review

Superintendent Nelson presented the Brantford Secondary School Attendance Boundary Review. Over the past decade, the BHNCDSB has experienced significant population growth across both elementary and secondary panels, particularly within and surrounding the City of Brantford. As a result, secondary schools within the Board are experiencing increasing enrolment pressures and imbalances. To address these accommodation challenges, the Ministry of Education approved funding for the construction of the new Catholic Secondary School (St. Padre Pio), located in northern Brantford on Powerline Road. The primary purpose of the Secondary Board-Wide Attendance Boundary Review was to establish attendance boundaries for the new Catholic secondary school and rebalance enrolment across the Board's secondary system to enhance the efficient use of existing facilities, reduce reliance on portable classrooms and support long-term sustainability across the Board. In accordance with OPS 400.24. AP – Attendance Boundary Reviews, an Attendance Boundary Review Committee (ABRC) was established. The committee included administrative and parent representatives from affected schools. The committee mandates, committee meeting dates and public open-house consultation process were noted in addition to the public engagement feedback. At its February 23, 2026, meeting, the ABRC reached consensus recommending Option B on a boundary adjustment for secondary feeder school alignment based on the balancing of enrollment and public consultation and concerns. Figure 2 and Figure 3 in the report represent the final recommendation from the Attendance Boundary Review Committee.

Concerns were noted regarding the Caledonia students drive time. It was noted that the distance is further, however the bus travel time will likely be shorter for many because of the route. Express busses were also noted as a possibility to reduce the time on the bus for Caledonia students. A question was posed inquiring if staff will consider providing a late bus to bring students home from after school events in Brantford to Caledonia which was confirmed that after school transportation will be the same at the new Catholic secondary school as it is at the other high schools. Another question was posed regarding the projected enrollment. It was noted that the new Catholic Secondary School is scheduled to open as a grade 9 & 10 school only in the 2027/2028 school year and when the school is up and running as a grade 9-12 secondary school in 2029/2030, both Assumption College School and the new Brantford Catholic Secondary



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School are anticipated to have a student population of approximately 1100 to 1300 students each.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the amended Board-Wide Secondary school attendance boundaries, as outlined in Figure 2 and Figure 3, effective September 2027.

Carried

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT legacy provisions be implemented to permit currently enrolled Grade 9 and 10 students (2025–26 school year) at affected schools to remain at their existing school through to Grade 12, including those that reside within the identified areas subject to transportation eligibility changes.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 New School Build Updates

Superintendent Nelson provided an update on the new Catholic high school. Construction is continuing as planned and a PowerPoint presentation with photos from the construction site highlighting the progress was shared.

6.2 Catholic Education Week Update

Superintendent Lawlor provided a photo show of the highlights from Catholic Education Week including the Catholic Student Leadership awards that were presided over by Bishop Fabbro from the Diocese of London, the Celebration of the Arts held at the Sanderson Centre, and the school visit by Bishop Dabrowski, of the Diocese of Hamilton.

6.3 Update on Recent Cyber Simulation Results

Chief Information Officer, Norm Cicci, provided an update on the steps that the board is taking to be better at preventing cyber-attacks. Data was provided to the board regarding the risks to the organization from cyber-attacks which come in the form of phishing scams. Highlights of the multiple ways that the board is protecting itself from cyber-attacks were noted including mandatory annual training for staff and multiple cyber-attack simulations.

7. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board moves to an In-Camera session.

Carried

8. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Toni Poirier

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the business of the In-Camera session.

Carried

9. Future Meetings and Events



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Chair Luciani drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events.

10. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Chair Luciani.

11. Adjournment

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the May 26, 2026, meeting.

Carried

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 23, 2026, 4:30 p.m. – Boardroom