



**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, September 15, 2020 ♦ 7:00 pm  
Boardroom**

**Members:** **Trustees:**  
Rick Petrella (Chair), Carol Luciani (Vice Chair), Cliff Casey, Bill Chopp, Dan Dignard,  
Mark Watson, Alex Medeiros (Student Trustee)

**Senior Administration:**  
Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Scott Keys (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer), Rob De Rubeis, Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple (Superintendents of Education)

**Board Resource:**  
Carmen McDermid (Student Achievement Lead – Special Education)

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**1. Opening Business**

**1.1 Opening Prayer**

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Vice Chair Luciani.

**1.2 Attendance**

The board welcomed Alex Medeiros, Assumption College, as the 2020-21 Student Trustee.  
Attendance was as noted above.

**1.3 Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the September 15, 2020 meeting.

**Carried**

**1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil**

**1.5 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2020**

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the February 18, 2020 meeting.

**Carried**

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

**2. Presentations - Nil**

**3. Delegations – Nil**



**4. Consent Agenda - Nil**

**5. Committee and Staff Reports**

**5.1 Summary of 2019-20 Reports to Board**

Director McDonald presented a summary of the reports and presentations that were made to the Board during the 2019-20 school year.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the 2019-20 Reports to Board Summary to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

**Carried**

**5.2 Special Education Services Department Annual Report 2019-20**

Superintendent Greco provided an outline of the annual report while highlighting the board's commitment to providing inclusive education for every student and ongoing professional learning for staff. A summary of successful practices and enhancements was shared including assistive technology.

Carmen McDermid, Student Achievement Lead – Special Education, reviewed the expansion of the Lexia Program and Learning Upgrade systems. It was noted that the Lexia Program was invaluable during distance learning. Highlights of the After School Skills Development Program (ASSD) were shared including students improving their functional independence and social skills. Students were taught how to leverage digital technology while staff developed a better understanding of IEP expectations and how to capture learning.

Trustee Casey inquired as to what steps are being taken to identify dyslexia in students.

Carmen McDermid advised that the Special Education Team has been working with professionals to learn more about identifying reading disabilities. There is currently a screener used in Grade 1 that assists in recognizing early signs in order to achieve early intervention and to help students maximize their abilities.

Trustee Chopp emphasized the importance of devices for Educational Assistance to assist them in capturing learning and for providing support in virtual schools.

Chair Petrella requested staff to report back with an update on devices for Educational Assistants.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Special Education Annual Report 2019-20.

**Carried**



### **5.3 Summer Learning: Special Education and Mental Health**

Superintendent Greco reviewed the additional funding and allocations through the Priorities and Partnership Fund (PPF) as a result of the emergency remote learning in 2019-20. The board offered supports including Closing Gaps and Mitigating Learning Loss, Transition Programs and Ongoing Mental Health Support, throughout July and August 2020. There were over 100 staff who worked on the programs which assisted 501 families. One of the goals of the supports was to complete assessments and testing to prepare for September. There was also a two week transition program offered for students with significant special education or mental health needs to assist with the transition back into school.

Trustee Luciani thanked the team for their work and highlighted the benefits that students are receiving from the program.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Cliff Casey

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Summer Learning: Special Education and Mental Health Report.

**Carried**

### **5.4 Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020**

Superintendent Greco introduced the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 and reviewed the main categories: Suspensions, Streaming, Discrimination-Free Classroom and Demographic Data. Cannot suspend under discretionary section. An outline of developments was provided including suspensions in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3, mandatory investigation before mandatory suspension, suspensions for bullying and safe and Safe and Accepting Schools Allocation (SASA). Superintendent Greco advised that more details will be released in the near future. Discussion was held regarding the process of streaming in Grade 9.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 Report.

**Carried**

### **5.5 BHNCDSB Re-opening Plan Update**

Director McDonald provided an update on the staggered entry process for the face to face model. It was noted that there were approximately 980 students enrolled in the Elementary Virtual School and 530 students in the Secondary Virtual School. A summary of the professional development days was shared. An outline of the outbreak protocol was presented. Special Education and Mental Health supports that have been implemented were also highlighted.

Trustee Casey inquired as to the status bus drivers. Director McDonald advised that staff have been working with STSBHN to identify routes and move drivers around to accommodate students.

Chair Petrella praised the efforts of staff in the re-opening process.



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Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the BHNCD SB Re-opening Plan Update Report.

**Carried**

## 6. Information and Correspondence

### 6.1 Camp Blast

Superintendent Temple provided an update on Camp Blast which was held July 13 – July 21, 2020. The camp consisted of three classes, Grades 1 to 5 with a total of 95 students. The program utilized the Lexia Program and included one on one check-ins with students. There was a high engagement in the program with each student showing a gain at the end of the program. The program received very positive feedback and recognition from the Ministry of Education. Superintendent Temple thanked Chandra Portella, Student Achievement Lead, and Sarah Conway, System Literacy Teacher, for their work.

### 6.2 Start-up Enrolment and School Organizations Update

Superintendent De Rubeis provided a summary of current enrolment and school organizations including elementary, secondary and virtual.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the information and correspondence items since the last meeting.

**Carried**

## 7. Trustee Inquiries – Nil

## 8. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

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: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Cliff Casey

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 Petrella drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events.



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#### **11. Closing Prayer**

The closing prayer was led by Chair Petrella.

#### **12. Adjournment**

Moved by: Mark Watson

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the September 15, 2020 meeting.

**Carried**

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**Next meeting:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom