



**BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board**

Minutes

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

**Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, December 13, 2022 ♦ 7:00 pm
Boardroom**

Members: **Trustees:**
Rick Petrella (Chair), Carol Luciani (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Dan Dignard,
Halaena Buenviaje (Student Trustee)

Regrets: Bill Chopp, Mark Watson

Senior Administration:

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Scott Keys (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer), Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

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

1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the December 13, 2022 meeting, as amended.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest - Nil

1.5 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2022

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the October 18, 2022 meeting.

Carried

1.6 Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil

2. Presentations - Nil

3. Delegations – Nil



4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Unapproved Minutes from the Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Board of Directors Meeting – November 1, 2022

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board received the unapproved minutes of the Minutes from the Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Board of Directors Meeting of November 1, 2022.

Carried

4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Council Committee Meeting – October 26, 2022

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved Minutes from the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Council Committee Meeting of October 6, 2022

Carried

4.3 Unapproved Minutes from the Faith Advisory Committee Meeting – November 17, 2022

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board received the unapproved Minutes from the Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of November 17, 2022.

Carried

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations of the Accommodations Committee – December 1, 2022

Trustee Dignard, Chair of the Accommodations Committee, reviewed the business of the December 1, 2022 Accommodations Committee Meeting and brought forward the following recommendations:

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

That the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the following attendance boundary reviews:

- Southwest Brantford (Elementary) in January 2023.
- City of Brantford (Elementary) in Spring 2023.
- County of Brant (Elementary) in Fall 2023.
- Haldimand County (Elementary) and Board-Wide Secondary in 2023-24.

Carried



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Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved Minutes from the Accommodations Committee Meeting of December 1, 2022.

Carried

5.2 Insurance Renewal

Superintendent Keys reviewed details of the Board's 2023 insurance renewal with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE). He noted that the rates are adjusted based on the Board's experience in the past year. He commented that as a subscriber of OSBIE, the Board is both an insured and an owner and, as such, is eligible for a premium refund. For 2022, the Board received a premium refund of \$33,302.16.

Trustee Blake inquired about OSBIE's Legal Expense Coverage. Superintendent Keys noted that this type of insurance is related to legal expenses incurred from human rights, non-union employment, property dispute, etc. claims. The Board has purchased Legal Expense insurance coverage so that OSBIE will reimburse the Board for these types of claims.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the 2023 insurance renewal premium, payable to the Ontario School Board's Insurance Exchange, in the amount of \$153,199.00, excluding PST.

Carried

5.3 Trustee Expenses

Superintendent Keys presented a summary of trustee expenses in the areas of travel, communications, professional development and other expenses for the 2021-22 school year. As per policy, trustee expenses will be posted on the Board's website annually.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Trustee Report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.4 EQAO Update

Superintendent Temple shared an update on EQAO for 2021-22. The EQAO Assessment results are used to guide improvement initiatives as they relate to student achievement. She commented that it is important to note that as many of the variables of the test were changed (new digital format of the test, some students not participating due to virtual learning or covid, as well as a new curriculum launched in Grades 1-9 by the Ministry of Education during the pandemic) comparisons to old data are not relevant.

The Student Achievement Team was pleased with gains in Junior Reading, specifically in Grade 6, with results at 86.3% achieving level 3 and above, a success rate trending above the province. In addition, the Grade 9 Mathematics showed strong results exceeding those of the province.



Results for Primary reading, writing, and math are hovering just below provincial results, providing the Board with new baseline data to determine our next steps for educator learning. Data for Grade 6 math shows some concern and the Student Achievement Team is working to address the matter with new resources for instruction for Grades 1-9 as well as focused tutoring supports, which are free to families.

The Ontario, Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), completed at all our secondary schools, saw good results as well. The Board's result for Grade 10 students, first time writing the assessment, had a success rate of 81.4%, just shy of the provincial average of 82.1%. Our previously eligible students, saw a tremendous success rate of 87.2%, which is 2% higher than the province.

Chair Petrella commented that the Board is proud of our students' test results and asked that Superintendent Temple come to the Board if further resources are required to assist students and teachers achieve higher success rates in the future. Superintendent Temple noted that trustees will be provided with an update in March for primary and junior students.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the EQAO Update Report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.5 Addition of Personal Activity Learning Program (PAL) at St. John's College

Superintendent Wilson provided trustees with information and the rationale for adding the Personal Activity Learning Program (PAL) and the Community Living Programs at St. John's College (SJC), beginning in September 2023. He noted that, currently, the above courses are only offered at Assumption College School (ACS) and students who live in the SJC school boundary are bussed to ACS to obtain these courses, which are approaching or at capacity. Offering the programs at SJC would create an opportunity for program expansion as enrollment continues to increase and create equity among the course offerings at ACS and SJC.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the addition of Personal Activity Learning (PAL) and Community Living Programs at St. John's College, starting in September 2023.

Carried

5.6 Supporting High Needs Students

Superintendent Wilson noted that despite the use of tiered interventions by staff, some high needs students in the Board require more specialized and intensive support. To assist in meeting the needs of a few of our students and to support classroom staff, the Board will engage the services of Bartimaeus Inc. to assist in situations that require interventions with students experiencing moderate to extreme behavioural, emotional, psychological and/or developmental challenges.



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Trustee Luciani wondered when Bartimaeus Inc. would begin working with our Board? Superintendent Wilson noted that the Board is in the process of engaging the company, so their staff can begin working with two students in January 2023.

Trustee Blake noted that this corporation would provide the Board with another tool for assisting staff and students. He questioned if the funds to hire Bartimaeus Inc. would come from the Special Education budget? Superintendent Wilson noted that the funds are currently in the Special Education budget, so he was not requesting additional funds to proceed with the program.

Chair Petrella wondered if there was an opportunity for staff members to job shadow staff from Bartimaeus Inc. so that the Board may be in a position to create this position in-house in the future? Superintendent Wilson noted that the hiring of Bartimaeus Inc. is a short-term intervention with a gradual release of intervention. Superintendent Greco offered that the hiring of the company will cross over into student support services to assist our behavioral consultants, etc.

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Support High Needs Students Report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

Police Check By-Law Amendment

Director McDonald shared information regarding a proposed addition to the Board's By-Laws, specifically section 6.1.2.1, titled *Inaugural Meeting*. The addition of the wording in the recommendation would result in trustees having the same procedure as Board staff regarding police record checks.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the addition of the following line in Section 6.1.2.1. of the *Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board By-Laws*: "All new trustees will provide a Police Record Check **with a Vulnerable Sector Screening** at the beginning of each term prior to the Inaugural Meeting. Current trustees will complete an Annual Offense Declaration."

Carried as Amended

6. Information and Correspondence – Nil

7. Trustee Inquiries

- 7.1 Trustee Blake noted that with the addition of amber lights flashing before red lights flashing on school busses, school bus drivers are concerned that commuters are now trying to beat the amber lights. He asked if STSBHN could further educate the public regarding this matter? Trustee Luciani countered that there have been commercials on various television stations regarding amber lights, so the public is aware.



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- 7.2 Trustee Blake noted that internet and cell phone service is very poor in some areas of Norfolk County and asked if the Board could develop a timetable to bring these services to the same level as other geographic areas of the Board? Superintendent Keys noted that a major overhaul of the Board's internet providers was conducted several years ago and all schools now have high-speed internet and each student is receiving 1 mg of connectivity. He also noted that the Board is at the mercy of the providers, similar to families living in the community.
- 7.3 Trustee Dignard asked trustees to provide him with the names of individuals who have provided excellence in Catholic education. He will forward the names to the Board's Faith Advisory Committee.
- 7.4 **NOTICE OF MOTION**
Trustee Blake asked that the following Notice of Motion be tabled,
THAT employees of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board return to physical workstations as of February 6, 2023.

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: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

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.

11. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Chair Petrella.

12. Adjournment

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the December 13, 2022 meeting.

Carried



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Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom