

Minutes

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

Faith Advisory Committee (FAC) Thursday, September 29, 2022♦ 1:00 p.m. Virtual Microsoft TEAMs Meeting

Present: Tara Williams, Heather Graham, Andrew Hall, Father Ronald Angervil, Lorrie Temple, Keri

Calvesbert, Dan Dignard, Father Stephen Murrin, Father Augustine Ogundele,

Regrets: Halaena Buenviaje , Tom Laracy, Carole Allen

1. Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgement

Lorrie Temple opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgement and prayer.

2. Welcome

Dan Dignard and Lorrie Temple welcomed members of the committee.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting were approved.

4. Information and Discussion Items

4.1 Keri to Update on Spiritual Theme and Faith Day

Keri Calvesbert gave an overview of the new Board Spiritual Theme, "Catholic Education: We are Many, We are One" rooted in the Scripture passage "We who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members, one of another." (Romans 12:5) The new theme aligns with the OCSTA 2023 Catholic Education Week theme. The new theme will be the focus of the October 4th (Norfolk) and the 7th (Brant/Haldimand) PD Days. On these days, staff will attend Mass at one of three designated parishes. A commissioning of the New Permanent Employees will take place during each Mass. Staff will create a visual representation of the theme to be displayed in schools and sites for the remainder of the school year. Staff will engage in community building, prayer and reflection activities as selected from the Pastoral Resource Package developed by the Board Pastoral Team. The Pastoral Resource is a living document which will be updated monthly and can be used to support Faith Formation throughout the school year.

4.2 David Wells update and sharing

Keri Calvesbert shared that David Wells produced a series of three interactive video messages to be shared with all staff on the October 4th and 7th PD Days to help staff unpack and gain a deeper understanding of the new Board Spiritual theme. On November 8, 2022, David will be presenting in-person to our Administrators and on November 9th, David will be spending a half-day with our Student Achievement Team, Student Services Support Teams, and the Board Pastoral Team. All staff will be invited to attend a presentation by David Wells on the evening of November 8th (either in-person or online) at the Diocese of Hamilton.

4.3 Pen Pal follow up to request from the spring

Keri Calvesbert explained that in October contact information for five schools in Poland hosting students from Ukraine will be shared with schools inviting them to participate in pen-pal letter writing. Participating schools will be asked to update as exchanges occur.



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4.4 Curriculum questions/discussion

Committee members expressed some concerns about faith being taught in schools not translating to seeing families at Mass. Fr. Angervil suggested offering a monthly Sunday Mass for Teachers. Fr. Murrin shared the continuous challenges of bridging home, school, and parish, pointing to importance of educators living their faith to model for students. Fr. Augustine shared these similar views. Lorrie Temple explained one of the reasons behind hosting Faith Day Masses in the parish is to help bring staff back into the parish.

4.5 Secondary Faith Activity Sharing

Tara Williams submitted the following report on activities in our Secondary schools: At Holy Trinity, school-wide opening Mass took place with Fr. Charles on Sept. 26th. In preparation for this Chaplain Ian spoke to all grades at the grade level assemblies to prepare them for the Mass, especially the celebration of the Eucharist. Morning prayer resumed on announcements and beginning this month we will have students and staff taking on morning prayer duties as well. This week we are beginning our SSVP collection. Chap Ian and the admin TEAM have been exploring options to bring back the Grade level retreats. We feel these retreats were extremely important to the building of our faith community among students. Assumption College reported that they were the recipients of the Michael Carty Award from the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario for their submission, "Migrant Worker: Fratelli Tutti in our Midst." Students from the Social Justice class, student Chaplaincy team and ESL program participated in their first encounter in September.

4.6 Elementary Faith Activity Sharing

Heather Graham reported the following activities took place at St. Joseph's School: The school has been immersed in introducing the new Board Spiritual Theme, "We are Many, We are One." The Pastoral Resource Package has been used for staff meetings and parent council meetings. The Catholic Education Week prayer is being shared over the announcements and in the school newsletter. St. Joseph's, along with other Norfolk County Catholic Elementary schools are participating the Norfolk SSVP Thanksgiving Food Drive to support neighbours in need in the local communities. Heather gladly shared that Priest visits began again in the school and St. Joseph's has resumed going to Mass once per month at St. Mary's Parish, Simcoe.

4.7 Diocesan – Deanery Updates

N/A

4.8 F.A.C.E.- Updates

N/A

4.9 ICE symposium info item

Lorrie Temple shared about the ICE Symposium, "On the Way: Adult Faith Formation in Catholic Education" to be held on May 8th-10th, 2023. BHNCDSB will be represented by a Board team consisting of members of the Faith Advisory Committee. Further information forthcoming.

5. Questions/Discussions

Dan Dignard communicated the Board's desire to reinstate the Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Education Award and the Distinguished Catholic Graduate Award to be presented Catholic Education Week 2023. Information regarding nominations to be shared at a later date.



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6.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned by Dan Dignard.

Next Meeting: November 17, 2022