



**Faith Advisory Committee (FAC)  
Thursday, April 17, 2025 ♦ 1:30 p.m.  
In person at CEC or Microsoft Teams**

- Present:** Heather Graham, Michael Lawlor (Superintendent of Education), Keri Calvesbert
- Regrets:** Carol Luciani (Chair of the Board), Tara Williams, Andrew Hall, Fr. Augustine Ogundele, Fr. Rudolph D'Souza, Carlo Fortino, Dan Dignard (Trustee- Brant), Carole Allen (FACE), Fr. Kevin D'Souza
- 

**1. Welcome/Introductions**

Michael Lawlor, Superintendent of Education, welcomed members to the meeting.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Michael Lawlor opened the meeting in prayer.

**3. Approval of the Minutes**

The Minutes of the January 28, 2025 will be approved at the next meeting.

**4. Information and Discussion Items**

**4.1 Lenten Evening Event**

Keri Calvesbert shared that on March 25, 2025, the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord, BHNCDSB held their Lenten Evening Faith Formation Event at St. Basil's Parish, Brantford. Staff were invited to attend this Special Additional Pilgrimage Day of Prayer to pray before the Holy Door. Attendees participated in Adoration, Reconciliation, Benediction and Mass and were able to receive their passport stamp.

**4.2 Catholic Education Week Theme and Activities**

The 2025 Catholic Education Week Theme is "Pilgrims of Hope." Keri Calvesbert provided an overview of system wide CEW plans. All school Administrators received an "At a Glance" calendar indicating daily events, special events, and where things can be found. Links to daily announcements and prayers are included in the calendar. This year to celebrate CEW and Mental Health Week, schools are invited to participate in the Faith and Wellness Pilgrimage. All schools will receive a set of 15 lawn signs and stakes containing a collection of 3 activities (Mind, Body, Spirit) reflective of each of the 5 sub-themes for CEW. During CEW, schools are asked to stake their signs in the ground in their school yard or in the community (with permission). Walk and pray as they go (links to prayer ideas/suggestions provided in calendar). Stop at each station/sign to complete the Mind, Body Spirit Activities on each sign. The pilgrimage can be done as a whole school or by individual classrooms. During CEW, Flat Luce's Jubilee Year Journey is being launched and will continue through to the end of the Jubilee Year. Elementary Educators are invited to participate in this initiative being launched in collaboration with Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB. Inspired by Luce, the Mascot of the Jubilee 2025, "Flat" Luce travels to different places with students, helping them to explore faith and community in engaging ways and to recognize God's presence in their daily lives through Luce's journey. Educators and families are invited to share Flat Luce's journey using #bhnFlatLuce. Keri shared Flat Luce's Jubilee Year Journey resource package with Administrators and the resource to be



released for CEW2025 will be included in the Student Achievement Team April Newsletter. The Catholic Student Leadership Awards afternoon leadership symposium and Evening Celebration will take place at Assumption College on Monday, May 5, 2025. The Catholic Education Week Provincial Mass livestream airs Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. In anticipation of CEW and for planning purposes, Keri emailed the OCSTA Classroom resource packages including lesson plans for Elementary and Secondary to all Elementary Educators, Secondary Educators and Administrators in March 2025. The Diocese of Hamilton shared a CEW 2025 Package including Bishop Crosby's Messages for CEW in English and French, along with eight social media reels highlighting Catholic School Boards across the Diocese. Holy Family School, Paris will be featured this year on Friday, May 9, 2025. All schools and sites are encouraged to use their Twitter/X accounts to share and celebrate CEW 2025.

#### **4.3 Update of Plans for Faith Day 2025**

The Pastoral Team has been working to put plans in place for Faith Day 2025 which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7, 2025, the Professional Development Day for all staff. To date, four parishes across the district including St. Pius X, Brantford, St. Mary's, Brantford, St. Patrick's, Caledonia and St. Mary's, Simcoe along with their parish halls have been booked for the morning. Faith day will begin with Mass at all four parishes (schools and sites have been divided into groups by geography) and a time of fellowship. Staff will travel to their schools/sites for lunch and to participate in the afternoon sessions. Afternoon session planning is still under way with details forthcoming.

#### **4.4 Secondary Feedback on Faith Activities**

Tara Williams submitted the following notes on behalf of Assumption College School for the minutes:

- Assumption Cares 24hr fasting activity last week raised \$6000 for SSVP
- Grade 8 classes from ACS Catholic feeder schools have been coming in since February (one class at a time) for a ½ day visit spending period 2 with the social justice class and then 11:30-1:00 with chaplain and student 180 Team. There has been very positive feedback from the Grade 8 students and teachers and our ACS students involved. We hope this program will help our future Lions be more comfortable beginning classes in the fall and have a sense of belonging and confidence entering Grade 9.
- ACS is hosting the Holy Doors replica for 3 weeks. The prayerful display began on Friday at the wellness PA Day with a prayer option in the chapel as one of the afternoon activities where staff could individually choose from three different self-guided forms of prayer activities
- A schedule has been sent to teachers to sign up to bring their classes to the chapel to pray in front of the Holy Doors: a liturgy and a Lectio Divina. These can be led by the classroom teacher or the chaplain - at the preference of the individual classroom teachers
- A stunning 8' metal artwork devoted to Mary our patron saint was installed in our front main entrance created by last year's Grade 12 Art SHSM students. It will be blessed on May 7<sup>th</sup> by Fr. Joe Okoko in a student-led liturgy and celebration at the school.
- ACS fashion classes partnered with SSVP for a fundraiser night of food and fashion. Students will model outfits created by clothing donated to the SSVP store on April 23 at 6:30pm at the SSVP store. Tickets are \$20.
- ACS chaplaincy 180 Team and Social Justice class were notified on Thursday we have received the Youth Peace Medal Scholarship award from the YMCA of Brant, Halton, Hamilton



for a project called *Confidence Closet: Clothes for a Brighter Future* in partnership with SOAR community services youth/young adult shelter services.

Tara Williams submitted the following notes on behalf of Holy Trinity Catholic High School for the minutes:

- School-wide Mass will take place during Holy Week
- Ash Wednesday Grade-Level liturgies were held
- Grade 9 Religion Class visits to prepare them for the school Mass
- Weekly Music Ministry Practices and Weekly Bible Study continues
- Staff Breakfasts using a new resource: video series - *The Wild Goose is Loose* - a 14-part journey to grow in relationship with the Holy Spirit from Fr. Dave Pivonka (Franciscan Priest from the Franciscan University of Steubenville Ohio)
- Chaplaincy Leader continues to run the Daily Games Club and weekly visits to Community Living Classroom to play games
- Chaplaincy Leader visits Job Skills class to do intercessory prayer (2x/week) and including connecting them with St. Vincent de Paul's Giving Tree, SVDP Food Cupboard & Titans Scare Hunger
- Did a 33 Days to Marian Consecration for Teens in a Grade 12 religion class (resource was called *Totus Tuus (Totally Yours)* by Mark and Katie Hartfiel (Began in February, will end in May)
- Grade 9 Religion Retreats
- Grade 10 NET retreat days coming up at the end of April (28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>)

Andrew Hall submitted notes for the minutes highlighting that during Holy Week the St. John's College Jubilee year cross will travel to homerooms for students to sign. Students can sign the cross if they have participated in any of the following Lenten activities: donated through School Cash Online to the Lenten Campaign for SSVP Brant, signed up to participate in the food drive, received the Sacrament of Reconciliation or a blessing on March 27<sup>th</sup>, attended the Divine Mercy Prayer group during Lent, donated to SSVP donation bin during Lent, plan to participate in the Holy Door Pilgrimage to St. Basil's Parish on April 30<sup>th</sup> or written a prayer intention to be prayed at the Easter Mass. SJC will also be having a Lenten soup and salad lunch for staff involving faith reflection and fellowship.

#### **4.5 Elementary Feedback on Faith Activities**

Heather Graham highlighted some activities happening at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School, specifically:

- Social Justice team visited ART-C where they were able to act in service to provide adult rec activities and spend time with adults with disabilities.
- Several schools are just finishing up their Lenten campaign of caring by collecting personal care items and non-perishable goods for SSVP and/or local food bank
- Peter Giordano came in and met with students to share the importance of social justice work and how they make an impact on the community.
- Grade 6, 7 and 8 students (separate days) attended retreats at the Parish held by Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of St. Catharines
- preparing for First Communion at the end of April



**Brant Haldimand Norfolk  
Catholic District School Board**

**Minutes**

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

---

**4.6 Diocesan – Deanery Updates**

**4.7 F.A.C.E. Updates**  
N/A

**4.8 Other Business**  
N/A

**5. Questions/Discussions**  
N/A

**6. Adjournment**  
The meeting was adjourned by Michael Lawlor.

---

**Next Meeting:** June 10, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. (In-person meeting at CEC)