

**Minutes** 

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

# REGIONAL CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, April 21, 2021 • 7:00 pm Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Present**: Carol Luciani (Trustee), Robert De Rubeis (Superintendent of Education), Marcia DeDominicis

(Principal Lead), Kevin Greco (Superintendent of Education), Lorrie Temple (Superintendent of

Education), Orazio Caltagirone (Principal, St. Francis Cabrini School), Kerri Chartrand

(Principal, St. Theresa School), Holly Colaiacovo, Megan Flexman, Heather Graham (Principal, St. Joseph's School, Simcoe), Tamara King, Heather Knill-Griesser (Principal, St. Bernard of Clairvaux School), Ashley Malo, Jennifer McLaren Gibbons (Principal, St. Leo School), Heidi Pasztor (Principal, Our Lady of Fatima School, Courtland), Alexandra Renneberg, Anita Santos,

Michael Skrzypek (Principal, St. Michael's School, Walsh), Marie Teskey

Guest(s): Kathleen Hilchey (Anti-Bullying Coach and Specialist)

**Regrets:** Stéphane Rouleau (Co-Chair)

# 1. Opening Prayer / Land Acknowledgement

Marcia DeDominicis, Principal RCPIC Lead from St Basil School, led the group in the opening prayer and provided the land acknowledgement by recognizing the Indigenous land on which we gather.

#### 2. Welcome and Opening Comments

Superintendent De Rubeis welcomed all guests and participants to the meeting. Superintendent De Rubeis shared Canadian statistics surrounding bullying in Canada.

## 3. Approval of Agenda - April 21, 2021

Moved by: Heather Graham Seconded by Marie Teskey

THAT the RCPIC approves the agenda of the April 21, 2021 meeting.

Carried

#### 4. Declaration of Interest - Nil

# 5. Approval of Minutes - February 24, 2021

Moved by: Ashley Malo

Seconded by: Heather Knill-Griesser

THAT the RCPIC approves the minutes of the February 24, 2021 meeting.

Carried

## 6. Anti-Bullying Presentation by Kathleen Hilchey

Marcia DeDominicis welcomed Kathleen Hilchey (Wright), Anti-Bullying Specialist and Coach to the group. Kathleen Hilchey is an educator and conflict coach. She has taught in the school system for over 10 years both in Elementary and Secondary schools. She has a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University, a master's degree in Education from Brock University and is an almost certified mediator.

#### **Minutes**

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

Kathleen now works as a consultant by helping to solve bullying situations in and out of schools, providing workshops to teachers and parents, and training professionals on her bullying theories.

Sharing her family and personal past experiences, Kathleen identified how these events lead to her passion on becoming a coach and her lifelong quest to solve bullying. Presenting 'The Power of the Parent in Conflict & Bullying Situations', the following items were listed as the focus for her presentation:

- 1. What is Bullying vs Conflict?
- 2. Why a bullying relationship is formed.
- 3. What actually ends a cycle of bullying?
- 4. How to parents usually respond vs. how can we respond.
- 5. How to develop problem solving skills in our children.
- 6. How to communicate with the school.

By describing the difference between conflict and bullying, Kathleen walked parents through a series of examples on how the bullying relationship can form. She shared her document on the three ways to conflict (See appendix A). Kathleen outlined on how parents can get to the root of the problem by problem solving and using de-escalating techniques (see appendices B and C). Finally, Kathleen described to the group on how to effectively communicate with the school once the root of the problem is discovered with children. A copy of the recording was made available to the Board parent council members and principals: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPkG">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPkG</a> 7QHkF8.

Participants were invited to ask questions.

### 7. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Superintendent De Rubeis thanked all participants and presenter for joining the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.