DURHAM CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Learning and Living in Faith

Regular Board Meeting – Open Session Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board
April 26, 2021 at 7:30 PM EST
Virtual Meeting

Trustees Present
M. Ste. Marie (Chair), J. Oldman (Vice Chair)
Trustees R. Damianopoulos, M. Forster, J. McCafferty, J. Rinella. M. Yurkoski

Regrets
Trustee R. DeSouza

Student Trustees Present
D. Amaral
A. Dela Torre

Director of Education Present
T. Barill

Senior Administration Present
S. Grieve, S. Lee-Fernandes, M. O'Neill, M. O'Reilly, R. Putnam, R. Rodriguez, J. Wilson, G. Winn

Senior Managers Present
D. Carlin, J. McVeigh, C. Oldman, A. Roffey

1. Call to Order

Chair Ste. Marie called the Open session to order at 7:01 p.m.

1.1. Motion to Move in Camera

Motion:
B2021-04-26-01 - Motion to Move In Camera
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board meeting move into In Camera session."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

Resumption of Open Session (7:33 p.m.)

1.2. National Anthem

The meeting opened with O Canada

1.3. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair Ste. Marie acknowledged Traditional Lands and Territory

1.4. Memorials and Prayer

Student Trustee Amaral offered the opening prayer

1.5. Roll Call and Apologies

Trustee DeSouza sent regrets.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1. Changes to Printed Agenda

- Chair Ste. Marie noted the following addition to the agenda:
  - Item 12.2.4 Revised 2020/2021 Schedule for Board and Committee Meetings
- A copy of the report was forwarded to trustees electronically.

2.2. Approval of Agenda

Motion:
B2021-04-26-02 - Approval of Agenda
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the agenda of the Monday, April 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as amended."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by M. Forster.
CARRIED

3. Announcements

3.1. Announcements from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting

Vice Chair Oldman read the following announcements:

Retirements

Anna Maria Muller-Chen, Durham Catholic Virtual Elementary School, Effective June 30, 2021

Bernice MacEachern, St. Thomas Aquinas C.S., Effective June 30, 2021

Patricia Hennig, Fr. Leo J. Austin C.S.S., Effective June 30, 2021

Robert Melosso, Durham Catholic Virtual Elementary School, Effective June 30, 2021

Robin Marie Van Der Vleuten, St. Joseph CS, Uxbridge, Effective June 30, 2021

Tracey Leroux, St. James C.S., Effective June 30, 2021

3.2. Appointments and Transfers

Vice Chair Oldman read the following:

Kathleen Frederick - Vice Principal, St. Isaac Jogues CS
New Placement Effective April 19, 2021 - Acting Principal, St. André Bessette CS

4. Notices of Motions

None

5. Declaration of Interest

5.1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

6. Actions to be Taken

6.1. Approval and Signing of Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-03 - Approval and Signing of Minutes
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Open Session of the March 22, 2021 Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by J. Rinella and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

6.2. Business Arising from the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2021

None

7. Presentations

7.1. Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week - Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude (May 3-7, 2021)

- Tracy Barill, Director of Education, introduced Katherine Mustachi, Senior Manager of Faith Formation and Diane Mullane, Senior Manager of Mental Health Initiatives who presented an overview of the combined Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week celebration that will be held from May 3 to 7, 2021. The combined theme for this important week is Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude.
- Katherine Mustachi noted the five sub-themes for this year's Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week:
  - Monday, May 3 - Preparing the Earth
  - Tuesday, May 4 - Sowing Seeds of Gratitude
  - Wednesday, May 5 - Cultivating Relationships
  - Thursday, May 6 - Harvesting New Fruit
  - Friday, May 7 - Marveling in Wonder
- Diane Mullane noted that the week is marked by a number of special activities for the Catholic education community. These events include:
  - Tuesday, May 4– Distinguished Catholic Educator and Leader Award. A link to a YouTube Premiere Event will be available at dcdsb.ca on Monday, May 3.
  - Wednesday, May 5– Province wide Catholic Education Week Mass with his Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins at 11 a.m. EST (Live Event)
  - Thursday, May 6– Wear Green Day to be grateful for the earth and focus on opportunities to be stewards of the environment. The colour green also symbolizes mental health awareness. Also on May 6, the Board will also announce the 2021 recipients of the Distinguished Catholic Alumni Awards.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-04 - Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week report dated April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. McCafferty. CARRIED

8. Delegation

None

9. Consideration of Motion

9.1. Motions to be read in Open Session from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of April 26, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-05 - Motions Deemed Read
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Motions as deemed read from the In Camera session of April 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Forester.
CARRIED

10. Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting

10.1. Notice of Motion: Student Trustee Two Year Term Proposal (as per Appendix 1 of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2021)

Chair Ste. Marie reviewed General Working By-Law Section 11.4 Time Limit on Speakers. Trustees were provided an opportunity to ask questions.

Motion:
B2021-04-26-06 - Student Trustee Two Year Term Proposal
Whereas the current Student Trustee Policy (PO215) requires the election of two student trustees each year to represent the interests of the students of the DCDSB.

Whereas the student trustee one-year term does not promote proper transition.

Whereas the student trustee one-year term does not support and may hamper new initiatives and cause them to be lost between years.

Whereas the current one-year term limits the student trustees' opportunities for peer-mentoring and learning.

Whereas there is unanimous support from the Student Senate Committee, which represents the students of the DCDSB, for a proposed two-year term of service for student trustees.

Whereas the DCDSB believes that students are the future of Catholic Education, and student interest are best represented by students.

Whereas trustees have the responsibility to mentor and guide student trustees.

Whereas the student views at the Board table inform the decisions made by members of the Board of Trustees.

Whereas, although a 'shadowing' period exists to provide incoming student trustees with the opportunities for leadership-skills acquisition from the departing student trustees, trustees who have served for a second consecutive year affirm their increased confidence and ability to inhabit the role more fully after completing their first year.

Whereas while student trustees serving their first term report the many and significant benefits of serving alongside an experienced student trustee, student trustees serving their second consecutive term affirm their increased capacity to provide peer-mentorship and guidance to incoming student trustees during their first year of service.

Whereas this initiative, which originates from the DCDSB student representatives, it also fulfills the DCDSB's strategic priority to empower students, by enabling them to access and learn from the life experience and expertise of adults, while also providing opportunities to develop quality leadership skills.

Therefore, be it resolved that, the DCDSB will amend the Student Trustee Policy (PO215) to a two-year term for student trustees, thus allowing for quality leadership and mentoring for DCDSB student leaders.

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

11. Committees

11.1. Committee Reports

11.1.1. I.P.R.C. Report for March 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-07 - I.P.R.C. Report for March 2021
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the I.P.R.C. report for March 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.1.2. General Working By-Law Committee Meeting - March 23, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-08 - General Working By-Law Committee Meeting - March 23, 2021
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the report of the March 23, 2021 General Working By-Law Committee meeting."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Forster.
CARRIED

11.1.3. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting - April 6, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-09 - SEAC Committee Meeting - April 6, 2021
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the report of the April 6, 2021 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.1.4. Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting - April 8, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-10 - DCPIC Committee Meeting - April 8, 2021
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the written report from the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of Thursday, April 8, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.1.5. Finance Committee Minutes - April 19, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-11 - Finance Committee Minutes - April 19, 2021
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the minutes of the April 19, 2021 Finance Committee meeting."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.2. Matters Referred from Committee

None

12. Staff Reports

12.1. Chair's Report

12.1.1. Chair's Verbal Report

Chair Ste. Marie provided the following verbal report:

- Congratulations to all the Distinguished Catholic Volunteers who were honoured and recognized for their contributions to their school communities last week during National Volunteer Week. Despite the year of restrictions, these volunteers and many others continue to build on the connection between families and their school communities. Parent volunteers are achieving this by hosting virtual events for families and students to participate in, from organizing Mental Health speakers to selling school spirit wear to raise funds. Thank you for all your support.
- Earlier this month, we accepted the Government of Canada's Climate Action Incentive for the $471,000 investment in making our schools more energy efficient. The announcement will help lower the board's carbon footprint and strengthen its commitment to environmental stewardship. The money will be used to:
    - replace boiler systems at two Whitby schools - St. Matthew the Evangelist and St. Mark the Evangelist;
    - install new windows at St. Wilfrid Catholic School in Pickering;
    - make energy efficient upgrades such as LED lighting in our schools; and
    - install new roofs, and roof top mechanical systems to help reduce pollution, lower energy costs and improve the air quality in schools for our students and staff.
- Students, families, staff and leaders, continue to persevere, learn and grow while adjusting to another lockdown and move to online learning. We are being asked to isolate ourselves, yet at the same time we know the importance of keeping connected with those around us. If you need help, there are resources available.
- The Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee is hosting a presentation entitled Battling Loneliness and

Isolation: Before, During and After COVID-19 on Wednesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. with guest speaker Aubrey Noronha. The workshop will provide strategies to help anyone experiencing stress and anxiety due to the pandemic; explain the scientific connection between social media, empathy and face-to-face interactions; and offer practical tips on how to create stronger family, friends and community bonds. Though free, registration ahead of time is required. Visit dcpic.ca to register.

- As the Board enters the Month of Mary, Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week with the combined theme of Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude – we look forward to ongoing board wide activities. It is a time to be thankful for all those around us and to acknowledge their contributions this past year. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the renewal and affirmation of our Catholic values with Masses, virtual family events, staff recognition and more. Families, trustees, staff and leaders are invited to watch the provincial Mass for Catholic Education Week on May 5 at 11:00 a.m. with His Eminence Cardinal Collins. The live Mass will be celebrated at St. Michael's Cathedral for Catholic communities across Ontario.
- At our May Board Meeting, we look forward to recognizing staff who have provided 25 years of service with the board; and honour schools and individuals with other awards of distinction.
- Let's continue to celebrate our milestones and accomplishments, and express gratitude for those who help us. There is hope popping up everywhere. With a little nourishment it will grow and blossom.

12.1.2. Student Trustees' Verbal Report

The Student Trustees provided the following verbal report:

- This past month the Student Senate was quite active on our Instagram, where we created posts in celebration of Easter, Earth Day, and provided information to students on the return to virtual learning that has taken place in the last few weeks.
- In the most recent edition of the Senate Star, we were happy to see our secondary schools running events like St. Patrick's Day celebrations, recognizing international women's day, and supporting world down syndrome day to name a few. We recognize how difficult it can be for staff and students to feel school spirit when we are virtual, which is why we also want to thank teacher moderators and school groups for their work in making the best out of this year online.

- We had the pleasure of meeting virtually with several of our secondary school's equity groups and GSA's (gay straight alliance groups) to discuss how schools/the board can further support the LGBTQ2S+ community, and racialized students. We hope to work with the board of trustees and staff to continue creating a safe and inclusive school environment for all students.
- In late March we were fortunate to have successfully run the elections for the student trustees of the 2021-2022 academic year. We are extremely proud of all candidates who put their names forward for consideration, and it is a testament to the resilience and passion of students in Durham Catholic even in these times. The two successful candidates for the role are Sophie Nwaoha from Fr. Leo J Austin Catholic Secondary School, and current student trustee Declan Amaral from All Saints Catholic Secondary School. We are excited to see the work that they will be able to do in the next school year.
- We would like to once again thank staff and students for their strength and patience as we navigate through the pandemic. We look forward to seeing our peers and teachers in person again when it is safe for us to do so, and have faith in our Durham Catholic community to find the best in our virtual learning environment. We wish you all an advance happy Catholic Education Week and look forward to recognizing Children's Mental Health Week!

12.2. Director's Report

12.2.1. COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update

Director Barill and Superintendent Grieve responded to questions from trustees.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-12 - COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information, the COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.

CARRIED

12.2.2. Update on Virtual Learning for September 2021

- Chair Ste. Marie inquired about the French Immersion section of the report and asked if there has been a change in the virtual learning numbers in the English program since publication of the report.

- Director Barill noted our strong commitment to the French Immersion program. She said due to significant operational and financial pressures we are not in a position to offer a virtual French Immersion program for the 2021/2022 school year. She indicated that at this point and time the Ministry has not given us direction that any virtual program is required for September.
- The Director reported that over 800 students have indicated they are interested in the English virtual learning program. As things evolve, staff will inform community and trustees.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-13 - Update on Virtual Learning for September 2021

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information, the Update on Virtual Learning for September 2021 report dated April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

12.2.3. Director's Verbal Report

The Director provided the following verbal report:

- Thank you to students, families, staff, leaders and administrators who pivoted to remote learning last week. We acknowledge the impact that the changes have been on you. Thank you to staff for navigating a year's worth of constant changes to support students' learning.
- As vaccines start to roll out, staff working closely with Special Education students were given letters of eligibility prior to the Spring Break. Vaccinations are also available to adults 40 years of age and older at local pharmacies. The Durham Region Health Department is setting up pop-up clinics for residents age 18-49 who live in the hot spot postal code areas L1S, L1T, L1V, L1X and L1Z.
- As part of the board's commitment to Equity, staff are being offered an Invitational Learning Series called the Business of Belonging in May. The series focuses on anti-Black racism, and Black Excellence in relation to belonging within educational spaces. Speakers will address Missing Black and Racialized Narratives in Catholic Education; Service and Expression; Black and Education – The Right to Just BE; Intersectional Black Identities and the Spirit Injury of Classification and Anti-Black Racism and Black Excellence Work. We are grateful to provide staff with more opportunities

to learn as we embark on our journey of making a better school system for our students.

- Although we have all been working and learning remotely, there has been no shortage of good news, special days, announcements, and milestones to celebrate. Some recent good news includes:
    - A student-led girls/women's empowerment group from All Saints Catholic Secondary School called The Riveters were interviewed on CTV. The Riveters currently has 65 members, and the group aims to break down barriers surrounding women's issues. The Riveters held their first event which was a menstrual product drive to help end Period Poverty.
    - Thank you to students and staff for demonstrating our Catholic values by helping others. All DCDSB schools raised funds for ShareLife.
    - Students and staff at the Durham Catholic Virtual Elementary School raised over $26,000 for ShareLife to help all those in need.
    - DCDSB's Indigenous Education Manager, Karli Robertson and member of the Board's Indigenous Education Advisory Circle were recently featured in a local article entitled Meet the People Keeping Indigenous Languages Alive. The article highlights the work that advocates are doing to preserve Indigenous languages. "Learning the words means learning about Indigenous identity, traditions and beliefs."
    - Congratulations to the students and staff for their ongoing efforts to raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation. This year, the board has raised an incredible $46,649.05 for cancer research.
    - Every year, the board participates in Skills Canada events to promote the skilled trades. In March, the CWB Welding Foundation provided a two-day "Train the Trainer" professional development workshop at Father Leo J. Austin Catholic Secondary School for six of our Trades and Technology teachers. The workshops were designed to enhance teacher's welding instruction skills and is part of a partnership between DCDSB, CWB Welding Foundation, Ontario Power Generation, UA Canada and Black & McDonald.
    - Ford Canada recently donated a new Lincoln Navigator to the Automotive Technology program at All Saints Catholic Secondary School. The SUV will

provide students with an opportunity to learn both the mechanical and electronic components of cars. The SUV is a welcomed addition to the school's program and will greatly benefit students' skills.

- Thank you to the caring school volunteers for their contributions during National Volunteer Week. Although, parents haven't been volunteering in our schools, they have been contributing by organizing virtual school-based events, to lift school spirit. On behalf of our staff, we are grateful for all your support and thank you for being a part of our Durham Catholic family.
- This week, the board will recognize dedicated staff who keep our offices running smoothly on Administrative Professionals Day.
- Next week the board will celebrate Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week. During this special time dedicated people from across the school system will be acknowledged during the Durham Catholic Distinguished Educator, Alumni and Leader awards. Recipients will be honoured during a YouTube Premier event on May 4, 2021. We are grateful for these opportunities to celebrate our dedicate staff.

12.2.4. Revised 2020/2021 Schedule for Board and Committee Meetings

Motion:

B2021-04-26-14 - Revised 2020/2021 Schedule for Board and Committee Meetings

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Revised Schedule of Board and Committee Meetings for the 2020/2021 school year."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by M. Forster. CARRIED

12.3. Academic Services

12.3.1. Catholic Student Trustees 2021-2022

Motion:

B2021-04-26-15 - Catholic Student Trustees 2021-2022

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Catholic Student Trustees 2021-2022 report dated April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty. CARRIED

12.4. Facilities Services

12.4.1. Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report

Motion:
B2021-04-26-16 - Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report for April 26, 2021”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

12.4.2. Replacement of Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School - Progress Update

Director Barill and Superintendent Grieve responded to questions from trustees on partnerships.

Motion:
B2021-04-26-17 - Replacement of Monsignor Paul Dwyer CHS - Progress Update
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file, for information the Replacement of Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School – Progress Update Report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.4.3. Annual Facility Partnership Opportunities

Motion:
B2021-04-26-18 - Annual Facility Partnership Opportunities
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Annual Facility Partnership Opportunities Report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. Rinella.
CARRIED

12.4.4. Education Development Charges Report

Motion:
B2021-04-26-19 - Education Development Charges Report

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file, for information the Education Development Charges Report dated April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. Rinella. CARRIED

13. Correspondence

13.1. Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Email dated March 23, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-20 - Correspondence from Minister of Infrastructure and Communities
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the following correspondence:
Email from Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, dated March 23, 2021."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

14. Inquiries and Miscellaneous

None

15. Pending Items

None

Motion to Resume In Camera (8:35 p.m.)

Motion:
B2021-04-26-21 - Motion to Resume In Camera
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board resume the In Camera session of the April 26, 2021 Board Meeting."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by M. Forster. CARRIED

Resumption of the Open Session (8:51 p.m.)

Motions to be read in Open Session from the resumed In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of April 26, 2021

Motion:
B2021-04-26-22 - Motion Deemed Read
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Motions as deemed read from the resumed In Camera session of the April 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Forster. CARRIED

16. Adjournment

Motion:
B2021-04-26-23 - Adjournment
"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of Monday, April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

17. Closing Prayer - Student Trustees

Student Trustee Dela Torre offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Morgan Ste. Marie Chair of the Board
Durham Catholic District School Board

Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Durham Catholic District School Board

Recording Secretary: L. Beckstead