



Durham Catholic District School Board

MINUTES of the **OPEN SESSION** of the **DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING** of the Durham Catholic District School Board which was held at Catholic Education Centre, North & South Boardroom, 650 Rossland Road West, Oshawa, on **Thursday, November 3, 2016**.

Committee Members

Trevor Aitcheson
Karolina Baker
Judy Bear
Kim Beatty
Melissa Bevan
Tom Brennan
Camilla Brown
Tricia Chapman – Trustee
Linda Dodson Trchala
Rose LoPresti
Melanie O’Neill
Kamille Rambally
Amanda Roffey
Josephine-Dora Spitale

Regrets

Bibi Ali
Monica Chevalier
Erin Groat
Kim Kehoe
Rodney Romain
Ken Lyons
Andrea Sullivan
Chris Szent-Ivany

Staff Present

Rosemary Leclair
Cynthia Mackey

Guest

Superintendent Barill
Superintendent Camozzi
Babajide Ogundare
Michael Hanna
Sofie Kehdi
Anna Deluca
Sandra Botelho
Bela Pacheco
Margie Joyce

CALL TO ORDER

Item a.1

OPENING PRAYER

Trustee Chapman offered the opening prayer.

Item a.2

WELCOME AND COURTESIES

Chair Dodson Trchala called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed all committee members to the November 3, 2016 meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item b.1 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion No. DCPIC2016-11-03-01 **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by M. O'Neill, seconded by K. Beatty

“THAT the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the November 3, 2016 Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Agenda.”

Carried

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Item c.1 The next Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting will be held Thursday, December 8, 2016.

ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Item d.1 **APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF October 6, 2016**

Motion No. DCPIC2016-11-03-02 **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by M. Bevan, seconded by T. Brennan

“THAT the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the Minutes of the October 6, 2016 Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting.”

Carried

Item d.2 **ELECTION OF 2 DCPIC PARENT MEMBERS**

Superintendent Leclair reviewed the DCPIC By-laws in reference to the role of parent representatives and opened the floor to nominations for 2 parent representatives. Babajide Ogundare, Michael Hanna, Sofie Kehdi and Bela Pacheco were present and submitted their nominations to the Committee.

Each candidate was invited to provide a brief summary of why they would like to become new parent representatives on the Committee.

Superintendent Leclair called 3 times for further nominations.

A ballot containing the names of all nominated candidates was provided to each voting member of the Committee. The completed ballots were scrutinized by Superintendent Leclair, Trustee Chapman, and Judy Bear, Teacher Representative.

The newly elected members of DCPIC are Babajide Ogundare and Sofie Kehdi.

Superintendent Leclair congratulated the new members and thanked all of the nominees for their candidacy with a reminder that all parents are welcome and encouraged to attend all DCPIC meetings.

PRESENTATIONS

Item e.1 **RENEWED MATH STRATEGY**

Superintendent Barill gave a presentation on the Ministry of Education Renewed Math Strategy (RMS) and the DCDSB Numeracy Action Plan.

Item e.2 **WHITBY SECONDARY STUDY**

Superintendent Camozzi provided an update about the Whitby Secondary School Review. The next public meeting will take place on Thursday, November 24, 2016 at All Saints Catholic Secondary School – 7:00 p.m.

Full details of the review are available on the DCDSB.ca website under the banner, Whitby Catholic Secondary Schools Consultation.

REPORTS/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item f.1.1 **CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Dodson Trchala submitted her report as attached. She thanked the visitors for coming to the meeting, and expressed her gratitude to DCPIC members for their contributions to hosting a very successful Commissioning Mass and Ceremony on October 26 at the Pope Francis Centre.

Item f.1.2 **TRUSTEE REPORT**

Trustee Chapman acknowledged the 25th Anniversary Celebration of St. Marguerite d'Youville Catholic School on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. A Mass will be celebrated with Father Damien at 6:30 p.m. followed by a reception at the school.

Trustee Chapman also welcomed new members Sofie and Babajide to the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and expressed her confidence in the spirit of teamwork which will result in an inspiring and successful year with “all hands on deck”. The feedback from our parent body through our Committees and Catholic School Councils is necessary and appreciated by the Board of Trustees.

Updates were provided by Trustee Chapman regarding the following Durham Catholic District School Board events:

Food For Clothing Exchange – the annual event will take place at Msgr. John Pereyema Catholic Secondary School – 316 Conant Street, Oshawa from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Anyone needing clothing may attend the exchange and are asked to bring a non-perishable food item which will be donated to the local food bank. The drive accepts all types of winter clothing and sizes. More information is available from the school – 905-432-8470 or Jim Fergusson 905-436-0275.

item f.1.2 Trustee Report continued

Many students and staff members attended the WE Day at the Air Canada Centre on October 19. This was an inspiring and uplifting event for all with its focus on social justice and the importance of creating a better world.

DCDSB Board Meeting (Policy) will take place on Monday November 7 at 7:30 p.m. Trustee Chapman reminded DCPIC members and guests that public input regarding Policy is welcomed and encouraged through the link on the DCDSB.ca website:
<http://www.dcdsb.ca/en/our-board/Policy-Input.aspx>

DCDSB is pleased to be hosting the Durham Zone meeting for our parish Priests on Thursday, November 17 at 10:00 a.m. This is not only an opportunity to express appreciation for our priests and their spiritual guidance in our schools and communities, but also to stress the importance of the home, school, and church triad.

Item f.1.3 RESOURCE REPORT

Superintendent Leclair noted that October was a very busy and productive month at the Board level and expressed her gratitude for the spirit of community which is in evidence across the system. She highlighted the following:

The Commissioning Mass was a great opportunity for our Catholic School Council members and Principals to network both within their school team and between schools. The Superintendent extended her thanks to the DCPIC members for their hard work in preparing the session. The feedback was very positive, and the Mass and speakers linked to both our spiritual theme and school and system priorities. Special thanks to Father Keith Wallace, of St. Bernadette's Parish in Ajax, and Deacon Dominic Pullano for celebrating Mass.

The Province of Ontario has designated November 6 - 12 as Treaties Recognition Week. This flows from the calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report. Schools have resource materials to support learning in this area. This will be an annual awareness week in Ontario beginning this year.

Parents will be receiving a letter in advance of Bullying Prevention and Intervention Week (Nov. 14 – 18). They will be invited to complete our Safe and Inclusive Schools Survey. It is the expectation of the Ministry of Education that these school climate surveys are administered every 2 years. Staff and students will complete surveys in class, and parents are invited to complete a survey linked to a banner at dcdsb.ca. Questions are adapted from the Ministry questions. This initiative is part of the Safe and Accepting Schools Act, and the results of the survey help inform the creation of bullying prevention plans, mental health action plans and the Catholic Community Culture and Caring pillar of our school and Board Improvement Plans. During the Bullying Awareness Week there are mandatory lessons for the classrooms, and prayers, announcements and activities happening within the schools. There will also be a multi-media contest to be awarded in February during Stand Up to Bullying Week.

Item f.1.4 PRO GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

The Year of Mindfulness for Parents began Nov. 1st at the Parent Resource Centre and was attended by a small group of parents with hope for increased participation as sessions continue throughout the year. Drop-in sessions are scheduled each week until June 2017. A schedule of dates and times is posted on www.dcpic.ca. Childminding will be provided.

Thanks to Melissa Bevan for suggesting the inclusion of Cara Southwood as speaker during the Commissioning Mass and Ceremony event. This was a great launch for the Mindfulness program. Flyers have gone out to the schools and principals have been provided with the pdf copy for use in the school and community. Any assistance in distributing the flyer is appreciated. All DCPIC members are encouraged to come out and participate in the remaining sessions.

Planning is underway for the Healthy Mind, Body and Spirit Symposium, Feb. 11, 2017 at All Saints C.S.S., Whitby. Josephine-Dora Spitale will be the lead on this event.

Item f.1.5 COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

K. Beatty is filling in during the absence of R. Romain. A sub-committee meeting by teleconference will be arranged soon. Anyone who would like to join the Communications sub-committee is asked to email Kim Beatty.

Item f.1.6 SCHOOL COUNCIL OUTREACH SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

M. Bevan thanked everyone for their contributions to the DCPIC Commissioning Mass and Ceremony. The feedback was very positive; the team-building and ice-breaker activities were especially successful and provided an opportunity for sharing of ideas. The speaker, Cara Southwood was amazing and everyone is encouraged to come and experience her sessions of Mindfulness at the Giffard Centre.

Item f.1.7 FAITH FORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Deferred for this month.

Item f.1.8 POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

This report was deferred. L. Dodson Trchala reviewed the role of the subcommittee as providing review and feedback on DCDSB policies. The DCPIC By-laws are also reviewed every 3 years but this took place in the spring and will not occur until 2019. Anyone is welcome to participate in this subcommittee.

Item f.1.9 BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

R. Lo Presti reported the current balance in the DCPIC School Council Supplies account as \$37,547.00.

An opening credit of \$8,435.00 reflects the GSN allocation for this year.

The Parents Reaching Out Grant funding from the Ministry of Education is \$12,500.00, and will be used to run the three DCPIC initiatives including the Mindfulness Sessions, the Healthy Mind, Body and Spirit Symposium, and the Paul Davis Internet Safety presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

The DCPIC meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m. T. Brennan offered the closing prayer.

Motion No. DCPIC2016-11-03-03 **Adjournment**

Moved by M. Bevan, seconded by K. Beatty

“THAT the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting of
Thursday, November 3, 2016, adjourn.”

Carried

Linda Dodson Trchala
Chair, Durham Catholic Parent
Involvement Committee

Rosemary Leclair
Superintendent of Education

Recording Secretary: Cynthia Mackey