



# MINUTES



## DENIS MORRIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday November 19, 2024  
5:45 P.M. Student Services

**Present:** K. Timmins, N. Royer, D. Williams, E. Farkas, A. Natale, K. Forster, D. Rapone, S. Strickland, M. Vandervaart, T. Kramar, L. Graham, M. Rocco.

**Regrets:** D. Scullion

### ROUTINE MATTERS

- 1 Opening Prayer – A. Natale
- 2 Roll Call
- 3 Approval of Agenda – November 21, 2024: 1<sup>st</sup>: T. Kramar 2<sup>nd</sup>: E. Farkas
- 4 Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: NIL
- 5 Approval of the Minutes – March 19, 2024: 1<sup>st</sup>: E. Farkas 2<sup>nd</sup>: L. Graham

### PRESENTATIONS

- Polo Shirt Issue – Red, Black, Grey or White only?
  - The parent group was able to review the different options available for the polo shirt. Various shades of red were presented, including slightly different fabric associated with the available shades. K. Timmins to provide feedback from the parent group, to the uniform supplier (McCarthy Uniforms) and ask them to seek alternate samples of red shades for review. Possibly introducing the availability of a black polo shirt as a uniform item was welcomed by the group. More to come.
- Jon Hansen – 6:30 pm – Presentation to Parents – Responsible Use of Social Media

### POLICIES FOR VETTING

- [Board By-Laws Policy 100.1](#)
- [Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement Policy 100.13](#)
- [Complaint Resolution Policy 800.3](#)
  - *Please submit your feedback to Anna Pisano by 12:00 pm November 20, 2024*
- [Trustee Code of Conduct Policy 100.12](#)
- [Trustee Electronic Meetings \(Board and Committees\) Policy 100.8](#)
  - *Please submit your feedback to Anna Pisano by 12:00 pm December 19, 2024*

### D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

#### 1 NCPIC (Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee) Report: K. Timmins

- The NCPIC meetings are open to the public, are livestreamed, and posted on the Board website: [Livestream](#). The last meeting took place on November 7, 2024.
- There were three presentations for parents at the NCPIC meeting: Mental Health and Well-Being, Niagara Public Health, and Catholic School Councils.
- These presentations were already distributed to the parent group on Friday November 15, 2024.
- The next meeting is Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

## 2 SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee): D. Williams

Here is a summary of the SEAC meeting - October 2nd for the CSC minutes. There was another meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup> but minutes have not yet been posted. [SEAC Website](#)

Agenda	Minutes	Livestream
<a href="#">September 4, 2024</a>	<a href="#">September 4, 2024</a>	<a href="#">September 4, 2024</a>
<a href="#">October 2, 2024</a>	<a href="#">October 2, 2024</a>	
<a href="#">November 6, 2024</a>		

### Agency Updates

- Friendship Walk for Down Syndrome: was a major success, money/awareness --> Down Syndrome Niagara. Friendship walk 2025 is scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2025.

### Upcoming Events

- DSAO's "Down Right Incredible" Annual Conference - Oct. 18/19th at Great Wolf Lodge
- DSN Halloween Party - Sunday, October 27th
- DSN Christmas Party - Sunday, December 1 11-2 at Americana
- FYI: in USA DS awareness month, in CANADA, DS week is October 20th-26th
- Community Living - PC/Wainfleet: Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> grand opening of the new Rita Smith Entertainment Center & sensory room updated, lots of activities planned including a float in the PC Christmas parade.

### Student Report

- Transition Activities - grade 8s visiting schools
- Pilgrimages - EA support
- Lead Out Loud - Student Senate will host for elementary schools

### Staff Report

- Ms. Filice & S. Walsh provided staff reports - not shown in the minutes

### Student Support Department

- IEPS: new program - RISE
- Gifted Program: first gifted module scheduled for October - outdoor education St. Johns Valley Center - orienteering/compass reading
- Music with Mendelt: opportunity for Special Education classroom students and staff to participate in virtual sessions with Niagara Catholic ROCKS with Mendelt this year. Music Therapy.
- September PD Day: Student Support staff, with NSTS staff offered an information session that focused on supporting students with their communication needs. They were given visuals, tip sheet, and resources.
- Pryor Linder & Associate Psycho-Educational Assessments: continuing to provide psycho-ed assessments to students who warrant this support.

- NSTS: Student support Coordinators, principals, vice-principals, and other department members work closely with NSTS. Team communicates frequently. Busiest months are September and June.

## Trustee Reports

- Trustee Marino: newly designed NCDSB website: Mental Health, Virtual Learning, Person Support Worker programs, recent events on the website too.

### 3 Catholic School Council Financial Report: K. Timmins

- Money in this account is used for grad breakfast, grad scholarships, feeding the students during Pilgrimage and on other special occasions (i.e. spirit day)
- So far this year, every student was provided with a hamburger on spirit day and pizza on Pilgrimage
- Krispy Kreme Donut Fundraiser set for February 19, 2025
- Cobb's Bread Fundraiser has been organized and will take place in March 2025
  - These funds are separate from the CSC fund and money raised will go towards Breakfast Program and DM Cares

### 4 Principal's School Information Report: N. Royer

- Pilgrimage was a great success, weather held out, 300 participants, \$7700 raised
- Completed 4 days of OSSLT in 3 locations, school will be notified in the new year regarding results
- Girls basketball buy-in
- WELPAC hosted paint-n-sip after school, another successful event
- Therapy Tails visited once again, students can sign out period 5 for 15 minute visit
- Policing jaywalkers by the plaza and Tim Horton's, email to parents and detentions assigned
- Grad photos took place, another session in the spring
- Grade 8 day next week, rotating activities, presentations
- AP information night next week for parents

## E. OAPCE REPORT: M. Vandervaart

- No information to share as the meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2024
- Here is the website for OAPCE related activities. <https://niagara.oapce.org/>

## F. STAFF REPORT: E. Farkas

- In Student Services we have been working with grade 12 students on post-secondary planning. The University and College Applications are open and we have held several application support sessions after school as well as at lunch. This has been very well received by students. University applications are due January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and College applications are due February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. We are hosting a Post- Secondary information session for parents on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> after Parent Teacher Interviews at 6:30p.m.. We have also had information sessions with Unions and the Trades for students interested in entering the trades/apprenticeship pathway.
- Over the last two weeks we have also had all grade 10 students write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Our last session was today. We will have another writing in the Spring for any students who still require it.
- Our grade 8s had a fantastic time at the football game in October and will be coming to DM for grade 8 day on November 26.

## G. STUDENT REPORT: K. Forster

- Halloween activities took place

- The student council is preparing for Christmas activities
- Once again this year, the student council will participate in the YWCA Kleenex campaign and collect donated boxes of Kleenex
- ROC card draws continue for various prizes, including the Days of Christmas draws

**H. OLD BUSINESS: NIL**

**I. NEW BUSINESS: NIL**

**J. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETING: K. Timmins**

- Parent Engagement Fund
  - \$500 available, with additional \$1000 has been spent on Jon Hansen presentation

**K. Next Meeting:**

- Tuesday January 14, 2025

**L. CLOSING PRAYER: K. Timmins**

**M. ADJOURNMENT : K. Timmins**

- Meeting concluded at 6:40pm, followed by presentation by guest speaker Jon Hansen, in the library.