

**Minutes of the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils Meeting
Thursday, May 1, 2014 – 7.00 p.m.
Board Room, Catholic Education Centre**

Chair: G. Rodney
Vice-Chair: L. Davoli

Trustees: A. Abbruscato - Regrets
E. O'Toole – Regrets
T. Thomas

Superintendent: M. Mazzorato

Members Present: G. Rodney – Chair
L. Davoli, Vice-Chair
M. O'Mahony – Principals/Vice-Principals Assoc. – Elementary Representative
S. Gos – Principals/Vice-Principals Assoc. – Secondary Representative
R. Quattro – OAPCE Representative
K. Cespite – Brampton East Caledon Dufferin Malton – Elementary Rep.
S. Donovan – Brampton North East – Secondary Representative
R. Cinapri – Mississauga Brampton Central - Elementary Representative
P. Giansante – Mississauga East – Elementary Representative
J. Rodrigo - Mississauga North - Secondary Representative
L. Tedesco – Mississauga South Elementary - Alternative

Regrets: A. Abbruscato - Trustee
E. O'Toole – Trustee
T. Cruz – Board Representative
C. Boscarino – OECTA Elementary Representative
M. McBride – Mississauga South Elementary Representative

Recorder: C. Fernandes

Guest Presenters: S. Kukolic – Blueberry Shark
J. Jamieson – Ontario College of Teachers
P. Di Ianni – Ontario College of Teachers

Observers: M. Cottadino - Parent
M Wallis - Parent

A. Routine Matters

1. G. Rodney called the meeting to order at 7.05 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer

3. Attendance

- i. Welcome and Declaration by CCCSC Representatives
- ii. Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil
- iii. Declaration of Alternates by Family of Schools
 - L. Tedesco – Mississauga South Elementary Representative
- iv. Identification of Observers and Guests
 - S. Kukolic – Guest Presenter – Blueberry Shark
 - J. Jamieson – Guest Presenter – Ontario College of Teachers
 - P. Di Ianni – Guest Presenter – Ontario College of Teachers
 - M. Cottadino – Parent Observer
 - M. Wallis – Parent Observer

4. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 2014, Meeting

- **Moved by P. Giansante**

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2014 MEETING BE APPROVED

CARRIED

5. Business arising from the Minutes - Nil

6. Approval of the Agenda

- **Moved by K. Cespite**

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED

CARRIED

B. Presentations

Blueberry Shark - Siobhan Kukolic

Ontario College of Teachers - J. Jamieson & P. Di Ianni

Superintendent Mazzorato thanked S. Kukolic, J. Jamieson and P. Di Ianni for their informative and interesting presentations.

C. Reports

1. *Trustee Report - T. Thomas*

- T. Thomas updated the CCCSC Committee on recent and upcoming events, activities and issues involving the Board:
 - In regard to a recent court decision involving a parent who wished to have his child exempted from religious events and activities at his school, the board has decided not to appeal the decision after a thorough review with senior staff and legal counsel.

- The board was disappointed that the 2014 – 2015 Grants for Student Needs (GSN) to the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) will be cut by approximately \$450,000.
- Recent events held throughout the DPCDSB included Autism Awareness Day, Pink Anti-Bullying Day events, Earth Hour and Earth Day events, Interschool Mass on April 3rd, 2014, ShareLife events, the observation of Holy Week, the canonization of Popes John XXIII and John Paul II, school blessings, celebration of the arts including the Stand-up Against Homophobia poster contest, multicultural nights, school plays and concerts, creation of peace gardens, school and Family of Schools sporting events and chess tournaments.
- Catholic Education week will be observed during the week of May 5th – 9th, 2014 and will include a coordinated province-wide school Mass.
- Trustee Thomas invited the CCCSC committee to visit schools during Catholic Education Week to see first-hand the many great things that happen in DPCDSB schools.

2. *Superintendent's Report – M. Mazzorato*

- M. Mazzorato thanked Trustee Thomas for attending the meeting on behalf of the board as Trustees Abbruscato and O'Toole had other commitments to fulfill during this very busy time.

CCCSC 2014 – 2015 Parenting Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

- The CCCSC Committee will be submitting a 2014 – 2015 Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant application to the Ministry to ask for funding to develop a series of videos entitled *How We Learn: Student Talks for Families*. Through the voices of children, parents will gain an insight and understanding into the types of learning experiences that are being creating for children in schools.
- A communication was sent out on April 30, 2014 to school Administrators, with a request that it be shared with their Catholic School Council chair, that briefly outlined the project we hope to embark upon using some of the funds from the 2013-14 PRO grant. It is in line with the application to develop a parent engagement tool. In order to ensure that the application has been informed by “parent voice” there was a link in the e-mail to a short survey that asked parents to supply five topics they would like to know more about. Superintendent Mazzorato asked the Family of Schools representatives to contact their Catholic school councils to encourage parents to complete the survey.
- The videos may be used in a number of ways:
 - posted on the board's website;
 - distributed to Catholic school councils to use at their local meetings to engage parents in further discussion on the topic;
 - Offer webinars at different times of the day to accommodate parents' availability and to provide additional resources to parents by way of answering questions, providing links to various websites and other resources that will provide more information.
- A committee will be formed of an eclectic group of individuals from across the board, including administrators, teachers, technical support personnel, and, where appropriate, some parent input. Students who will be featured in the videos will also be identified.

3. *OAPCE Report – R. Quattro*

- Volunteer Week in Canada (April 6 – 12) was acknowledged by DRAPCE at the meeting on April 30, 2014. Each year, 13.3 million Canadians volunteer 2.1 billion hours. DRAPCE is an

organization of volunteers that could not work without the incredible and dedicated members who contribute in immeasurable ways.

- B. Campbell, General Manager of the Communications & Community Relations Department , DPCDSB, attended the April 30th DRAPCE meeting and spoke about the Catholic Education Advisory Network. He addressed the topic of the media stories that came out in January about Catholic education. He emphasized that the most persuasive approach is for parents to write in their own words why they believe in Catholic education, such as the values that are woven into their children’s education, the social justice approach, and the excellent academics that all combine into an outstanding education system. The recent Brampton court decision was also discussed at the meeting and B. Campbell addressed concerns parent had. He reiterated that Catholicity is woven into the fabric of our school day and there is no way that it can be avoided. It is who we are and it is the reason why, to a great extent, people send their children to Catholic schools.
- The OAPCE award recipients for 2014 were recently announced and two Dufferin-Peel nominees were named as recipients:
 - *Father Mazzerolle Award* is given to a “religious or lay person who supports the aims and goals of OAPCE and has substantially contributed to the Catholic school system in the community and to the Association in particular, through at least two years of personal service”. The recipient of the award is B. Finamore, Chaplaincy lead at St. Paul S.S., and OAPCE’s 75th Anniversary Conference keynote speaker. B. Finamore was nominated for the award by CCCSC with supporting letters from the Trustees.
 - *The Glorja Nanna Award* is given to “a person who supports the aims and goals of OAPCE, and has substantially contributed in fostering a better understanding of Catholic education in Ontario through the use of various forms of media”. The recipient of the award is B. Campbell, General Manager of the Communications & Community Relations Department, who was also nominated for the award by CCCSC with supporting letters from the Trustees.
- J. Kostoff, Director, and S. McWatters, Associate Director, of the DPCDSB will be presented with a print around the theme of parent engagement that was created by a DRAPCE parent. The print will be presented at the OAPCE Gala Dinner on May 24th, 2014. The print will be signed by all delegates at the conference and is being presented in recognition of the continued support that the DPCDSB has given to OAPCE and for hosting the 75th Anniversary Conference.
- R. Quattro thanked the DPCDSB for hosting the conference and for the support it has consistently shown to OAPCE. The board will be providing bussing for students who are participating in the conference, the school permits and janitorial services required, and the use of its resources.
- The Toronto C.D.S.B. presented Orlanda Sousa, OAPCE President, with a framed certificate on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary Conference that will be displayed at the Conference and Gala Dinner.
- The most popular workshops at the conference are those that deal with stress and mental health issues of children, how to build great Catholic school councils and how to raise resilient children, which is presented by Michael Reist. R. Quattro will forward the data collected by OAPCE to the CCCSC In-Service Committee to use for future Marketplace events.
- OAPCE will be distributing the “I Believe” bracelets to all the students and volunteers participating in the conference as well as to all the delegates.

- His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins will be celebrating Mass at the Toronto Marriott Hotel and will remain for the OAPCE Gala Dinner that follows the Mass.

4. *SEAC Report – Nil*

5. *Parish Report – Nil*

6. *Family of Schools Reports – Circulated in Agenda package*

D. Information / Committee Updates – Chair

1. Correspondence – Nil

2. Chair's Report

- CCCSC Chair, G. Rodney, attended the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) conference on April 25th and 26th, 2014. The conference was informative and provided important resources for Parent Involvement committees.
- G. Rodney read the letter of welcome to the Conference from Minister of Education, Liz Sandals.

E. Other Business

- S. Donovan, Family of Schools Secondary Representative for Brampton North East, informed the meeting that the Peel District School Board held vigorous letter writing and public relations campaigns in order to prevent a cut to Special Education funding for 2014-15. She queried why the DPCDSB had not acted likewise and took a cut in funding.
- Superintendent Mazzorato stated that over the last number of years, there has been strong advocacy from staff in the DPCDSB to bring to the attention of the Ministry the challenges associated with Special Education funding, especially in the Peel region that has seen a large influx of people move into the area. The recent announcements around the GSN identified that the Ministry is looking at Special Education funding, and that we as a board will benefit from changes made to the formula that will be phased in over the next four years. Any changes made are going to impact every board in Ontario. Superintendent Mazzorato will share the information provided by S. Donovan with the Superintendent of Special Education and the Finance Department
- In the GSN, the board did receive a cut in funding against the Administration line, as did some other boards in Ontario, due to a new formula that is being used to calculate that line.

F. Agenda items for next meeting - Nil

G. Closing Prayer – Our Father

H. Adjournment –9.15 p.m.

I. Future Meetings

Thursday, June 12, 2014