



**Minutes of the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils Meeting
Thursday, May 14, 2015 – 7.00 p.m.
Room 301, Catholic Education Centre**

Chair: G. Rodney (Regrets)
 Vice-Chair: L. Davoli

Trustees: S. Xaviour
 T. Thomas (Regrets)

Superintendent: M. Mazzorato

Presenters: S. Peterson – Co-Ordinator, Religious Education & Faith Formation
 D. Finegan-Downey – Assistant Superintendent, Program Department

Members Present: C. DiCarlo - OECTA Elementary Representative
 S. Gos – Principals/Vice-Principals Assoc. – Secondary Representative
 G. Ogundele –Diocesan Representative
 K. Magdangal – OAPCE Alternate
 M. Beaton- Brampton North East - Elementary
 V. Kameka – Brampton West - Secondary Representative
 P. Meehan – Mississauga East – Elementary Alternate
 P. Giansante – Mississauga East – Secondary Representative
 L. Davoli – Mississauga North – Elementary Representative
 L. Tedesco – Mississauga South – Elementary Representative

Regrets: K. Cespite, T. Cruz, M. Emery, K. Foschia, L. Kostick, P. MacDonald,
 M. O'Mahony, P. Oliviere, R. Quattro, J. Rodrigo, T. Thomas

Recorder: C. Fernandes

A. Routine Matters

1. Call to Order
 - L. Davoli called the meeting to order at 7.10 p.m.
2. Liturgy led S. Peterson
3. Attendance
 - i. Welcome and Declaration by CCCSC Representatives
 - ii. Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil
 - iii. Declaration of Alternatives by Family of Schools
 - P. Meehan – Mississauga East – Elementary
 - iv. Identification of Observers and Guests
 - G. Briand-Santos

- C. Bryce
- M. Cittadino – Parent, St. Joseph Elem (Miss.)/St. Aloysius Gonzaga S.S.
- K. Dancy – Co-Chair – Holy Spirit Elementary School
- L. del Rosario – Trustee, Mississauga Ward 6 & 9
- M. Krepton
- S. Krepton
- J. Lasquite
- M. Licate – Co-Chair – Ven. Father Michael J. MacGivney C.E.S.
- J. Millson, OAPCE
- P. Piwek
- M. Sequeira
- A. Stzpnowski
- U. Zapert

4. Approval of Minutes of April 9, 2015 Meeting

- **Moved by K. Magdangal**

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE April 9, 2015 MEETING BE APPROVED

CARRIED

5. Business arising from the Minutes - Nil

6. Approval to amend the Agenda to reflected a change in the order of Presentations.

- **Moved by V. Kameka**

THAT THE AMENDED AGENDA BE APPROVED

CARRIED

B. Presentation

1. Health & Physical Education Curriculum (HPEC) – S. Peterson

- The purpose of the presentation is to share information with parents on how Ontario’s revised HPEC will be taught in Dufferin-Peel’s schools, with a main focus on Dufferin-Peel’s Family Life resource, Fully Alive.
- All curriculum developed is subject to a regular review cycle that is performed by a team of teachers with a specialty in the area being reviewed, with representation from the four publically funded Education communities (English Public, English Catholic, French Public and French Catholic). The review team may also include researchers or other specialists in the curriculum area. Generally reviews take about three years and the revised documents are sent to curriculum partners and community groups. The HPEC has not been reviewed for a number of years.
- Ontario Catholic schools have always taught Sex Education through the Family Life program. For over thirty-five years, the Ontario Bishops have worked with Catholic partners to develop “Fully Alive”, a faith filled, age appropriate program that provides students with an understanding of sexuality as God intended. The goals of the program are to:

- present a distinctively Catholic view of human life, sexuality, marriage and family;
- complement the efforts of families;
- support what parents are doing at home.

The entire program, from Grades 1 through Grade 8, is designed to encourage students to become the people God wants them to be – Fully Alive.

- Within the elementary (Grades 1 – 8) Catholic Family Life curriculum there are 5 themes:
 - The first theme, “Created and Loved by God”, explores the Christian belief that because we are all created in God’s image, we should respect and value ourselves and others.
 - Theme Two is “Living in Relationship”. We are created to live in relationship with others, and to respond to each other with love. The main focus is that loving relationships begin in the family.
 - Theme Three is “Created Sexual: Male and Female.” God made us male and female, and all of God’s creation is good.
 - ✚ In the early grades, this theme is presented through a continuing story. The message is that we begin life as a result of the love our parents shared and nothing can change this fact. It is part of God’s plan that we grow and are sheltered in our mother’s body before birth and it is our family that loves and cares for us after birth.
 - ✚ In later grades, as students enter puberty, the message is unchanged, but the approach is more direct as they need to know about the changes they will experience, and about the responsibilities of being created male and female and following God’s plan for them.
 - Theme Four is “Growing in Commitment.” Each one of us is challenged to grow in commitment to God and to each other. The best way for children to learn about commitment is to grow up in a loving and committed family. Knowing that they can rely on the commitment of others helps children learn to be dependable, to keep their word, and to make wise choices.
 - Theme Five is “Living in the World.” As members of human society children need to become aware of how big the world is, and of the many ways in which people contribute to making it a good home for all. This awareness is the foundation for a Christian attitude of care and personal involvement in the world.
- In Dufferin-Peel, every student of taught the Sex Education curriculum using the Fully Alive program. All Sex Education curricula is only taught in the Fully Alive program and parents are urged to visit www.acbo.on.ca, for more detail and resources available for the program. S. Peterson also invited parents to review the student resources, teacher manuals, the “big books” and charts that are used to teach the Fully Alive program that were made available for perusal at the meeting.
- As a board that is publicly funded, the Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B. has a responsibility to teach the curriculum set out by the Ministry of Education. However, the board has always done so in a manner that conveys respect and models Catholic values to students. While working with Ministry of Education curricula, Catholic schools use the Gospel of Jesus and the tradition of the Catholic Church as the starting point in our educational approach to all content.
- The Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) coordinates writing Catholic curriculum within the parameters established by the Ministry of Education. The Institute also develops material in Religious Education and related areas under the guidance of and in the name of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. ICE has been the driving force behind the creation of the Family Life Education and the Religious Education curriculums. They support Catholic schools by connecting with various Catholic partners in the creation of supporting Catholic resources.

- The revised HPEC, Grades 1 – 8, 2015 can be accessed by visiting: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/health1to8.pdf>.
- The HPEC has 3 strands: Active Living, Movement Competence and Healthy Living.
- The Healthy Living strand covers the topics Healthy Eating, Personal Safety and Injury Prevention, Substance Use, Addictions and Related Behaviours and Human Growth and Sexual Health. It is important to remember that this curriculum covers Physical Education expectations, which will be used in our schools as it has been laid out by the Ministry.
- The controversy arises in the last topic, Human Growth and Sexual Health in the form of phrases found in the teacher prompts and the expressions used in the student prompts. It should be noted that the expressions used in these prompts are optional. All HPEC human growth and sexual health expectations will be met through the Fully Alive program. Teachers will not be using the prompts and examples supplied in the Ministry document - they will use the material that has been provided by ICE and approved unanimously by every Bishop in Ontario and finally by the Cardinal.
- It is important to remember that the HPEC is not just a Sex Education curriculum. It is a rich program with critical thinking, communication and creative and includes long needed learning around Mental Health and Online behaviours.
- Teachers will be provided with their own copy of all resources required to teach the revised HPEC and the School Principal is ultimately responsible for ensuring the delivery of the curriculum. This can be monitored by the Principal as teachers are required to develop long range plans, to identify the topics they will be covering throughout the year and the resources that they will draw upon to. Teachers also have access to consultants at the Board who can assist them where needed. All new teachers go through the New Teacher Induction Program – a two year program where they are provided with support and mentors to integrate them into our Catholic system.
- Prior to teaching sensitive material, letters will be sent to parents to inform them of the topic to be discussed. If parents wish to have their children excluded from certain discussion, the request can be accommodated.
- If parents desire for learn more about the revised HPEC, S. Peterson will hold meetings at the schools to inform parents how the Catholic boards will introduce the approved curriculum through a Catholic lens.

2. Personal Electronic Devices (PEDS) – D. Finegan-Downey

- D. Finegan-Downey was assigned the task of spearheading the development of new Board and General Administrative Policy (GAP), and a student agreement relating to the use by students of PEDs in the schools.
- Consultations were held with stakeholders in both the elementary and secondary panels, including teachers, principals, vice-principals, ICT Governance, Corporate and Instructional Supervisory Officers, Elementary and Secondary Principals/Vice-Principal Associations and, with legal representatives from the Board, Elementary and Secondary OECTA and the Occasional Teachers' Unions, to develop the new Board and GAP policies and a student agreement. Consultation is now being held with CCCSC, SEAC and the Families of Schools.
- A group of administrators, coordinators, consultants and Special Education personnel have worked closely with senior management to update these policies.
- Policy 25 of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board states that students are permitted to use personal electronic devices (PEDs) on board premises and/or at board sanctioned events for educational purposes in order to support learning, under the direction

- of staff and only with parent/guardian permission by the use of the Personal Electronic Device Used With WI-FI Network Student Agreement.
- The use of personal electronic devices during school-sanctioned activities for a designated purpose outside of instructional spaces and/or in common areas may be authorized by the school principal (or designate).
 - Students will be allowed bring to school their own personal authorized PEDs that can be registered on the board wireless network, to use for school sanctioned educational purposes.
 - The Ministry of Education has provided some funding for the purchase of electronic devices for the schools to ensure that all students have access to devices.
 - All other PEDs that are not being used for educational purposes are to comply with Policy and Procedures and the Catholic Code of Conduct.
 - Principals are responsible for ensuring that:
 - stakeholders (staff, students, parents / guardians) are informed of policies. Principals have been provided with letters, newsletter inserts, agenda inserts and power point presentation to facilitate sharing this information with the stakeholders.
 - students use of PEDs aligns with board policies and procedures and is for educational purposes.
 - Principals determine (if they choose) at the local level non-instructional spaces such as cafeteria, hallways, vestibules, etc.
 - Principals support and promote the establishment and monitoring of responsible digital citizenship.
 - Teachers and staff are responsible for ensuring that:
 - Teachers and staff are aware of board policy.
 - Teachers and staff communicate when it is appropriate for students to utilize their PEDs and when they may access the board wireless network during instructional time.
 - Teachers and staff supervise the appropriate student use of PEDs within designated instructional areas.
 - Teachers and staff support and promote the establishment and monitoring of responsible digital citizenship.
 - Teachers and staff support the use of current and relevant technologies as appropriate to enhance teaching and learning.
 - Upon registering at a Dufferin-Peel school, students will be required to complete a GF O66, Network User Application and Agreement and a new Personal Electronic Device User Agreement. Parents should review both agreements with their children to ensure that they understand the terms and conditions for access to the Board WiFi and the use of authorized PEDS in the schools.
 - Pilot studies are being carried out in the schools in three phases. The Phase 1 study was piloted at the end of March in one school from each Family of Schools. In Phase 2, 9 more schools were added and in Phase 3, 14 more schools will be added.
 - M. Mazzorato and D. Finegan-Downey to take back to the Board concerns voiced by parents regarding the levels of electro-magnetic pollution that will be generated in the classrooms by the use of PEDs and other devices.

C. Reports

1. *Trustee Report – S. Xaviour*

- Catholic Education Week was celebrated from May 4th to May 8th 2015 and this year's theme was "Exploring Paths of Joy". Every elementary and secondary school celebrated Catholic Education Week in their own special way. A select number of secondary school students attended an inter-school Mass that was celebrated by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins at St. Francis Xavier Secondary School. After the Mass, a number of schools presented musical items and skits.
- On the ICT front, Dufferin-Peel has been working hard to ensure that each school in the board receives at least one cart of tablets.
- Trustee Xaviour mentioned that every schools he has visited is participating in Mission Milkbags, the collection of used outer milk bags that are woven into mats and shipped out by Canadian Food for Children to countries that are in need of them. He thanked the CCCSC for introducing this program Boardwide.

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

- Deferred to next meeting

3. *Diocesan Report – G. Ogundele - Nil*

4. *OAPCE Report – K. Magdangal (Written Report)*

On April 18, 2015, Kathy Burtnick, President of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA), attended the OAPCE Board of Directors Meeting.

- Trustees believe and acknowledge that parents are the most important voice at the stakeholders table because they make the choice to send their children to Catholic schools;
- Trustees encourage OAPCE members to remain engaged even after their children have completed their education in Catholic schools in order to leave a legacy that others can pick up and carry on;
- Trustees also encouraged the continuation to protect and promote publically funded Catholic education. This can be done by exercising Gospel values by showing respect towards others and agreeing to disagree if necessary but respecting everyone's opinion at the table;
- Students in Catholic schools might not all be Catholic but teachers, administrators and trustees are Catholic. Every opportunity to make Catholic schools stronger is important and parent engagement is another brick in the bridge that binds us;
- Trustees encourage OAPCE members to be informed and keep in touch with not only the Trustees but also with members of both the Federal Parliament and the Provincial Parliament to let them know that publically funded Catholic education is still as relevant as ever. The largest threat to funding comes from compliancy within our ranks.

5. *SEAC Report – P. Olivieri - Nil*

6. *ACCESS DP Report – Nil*

7. *Family of Schools Reports – included in Agenda package*

D. Information/Committee Updates – G. Rodney

1. *Correspondence - Nil*

2. *CCCSC In-Service Committee – Deferred to Next Meeting*

E. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

F. Closing Prayer – Hail Mary

G. Meeting Adjourned at 9.15 p.m.

H. Future Meetings

Thursday, June 11, 2015