

**Minutes of the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils Meeting  
Thursday, September 25, 2014 – 7.00 p.m.  
Board Room, Catholic Education Centre**

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

Trustees: A. Abbruscato - Regrets  
E. O'Toole

Superintendent: M. Mazzorato

Members Present: P. MacDonald – DPSU OECTA Secondary Representative  
C. DiCarlo - OECTA Elementary Representative  
M. O'Mahony – Principals/Vice-Principals Assoc. – Elementary Representative  
S. Gos – Principals/Vice-Principals Assoc. – Secondary Representative  
T. Cruz – Board Representative  
I. Della Rosa & E. Mazzotta – Parish Representative Alternates  
K. Magandal – OAPCE Representative Alternate  
K. Cespite – Brampton East Caledon Dufferin Malton – Elementary Representative  
R. MacBean – Brampton North-East – Elementary Representative  
P. Giansante – Mississauga East – Elementary Representative  
J. Rodrigo - Mississauga North - Secondary Representative  
L. Tedesco – Mississauga South – Elementary Representative Alternative

Regrets: A. Abbruscato - Trustee  
S. Donovan – Brampton North-East Secondary Representative  
M. McBride – Mississauga South Elementary Representative  
G. Ogundele – Diocesan Representative  
R. Quattro – OAPCE Representative

Recorder: C. Fernandes

Observers: M. Licata – Co-Chair, Ven. Michael J. McGivney Catholic E.S.

**A. Routine Matters**

1. G. Rodney called the meeting to order at 7.05 p.m.
2. Liturgy – Exploring Paths of Joy
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
  - iv. Identification of Observers and Guests
    - M. Licata – Co-Chair, Ven. Michael J. McGivney Catholic E.S.
4. Approval of Minutes of June 16th, 2014 Meeting

- **Moved by K. Cespite**

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 16th, 2014 MEETING BE APPROVED**

***CARRIED***

5. Business arising from the Minutes - Nil
6. Approval of the Agenda

- **Moved by M. O'Mahony**

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED**

***CARRIED***

**B. Presentations – Nil**

**C. Reports**

*1. Trustee Report – E. O'Toole*

- On behalf of Trustee Abbruscato and herself, Trustee O'Toole welcomed the CCCSC to the 2014-2015 school year.
- In this election year majority of Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board trustees are seeking re-election, with the exception of the trustees in Brampton Wards 2, 5, 6, and 7 – 10.
- Results from the 2013-2014 EQAO Grade 9 assessment in mathematics and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) indicate that Dufferin-Peel students exceeded the provincial average.
- Re: Negotiations under the new bargaining process for Ontario's teachers unions and school boards - the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) stated parties were unable to agree on which issues to hammer out centrally and which to leave to local bargaining.
- Trustee O'Toole has heard concerns voiced by parents with respect to the re-organization of classes that takes place in the second week of the new school year, the staggered start dates for kindergarten students, and the flexible boundary process that in some instances may cause anxiety for parents.

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

- The 2014 – 2015 theme for CCCSC is aligned with the theme of Catholic Education Week, Exploring Paths of Joy. Exploring Paths of Joy Together, and the five sub-themes associated

with the gospel story of the Road to Emmaus, will be used to enhance the liturgies at CCCSC meetings. These liturgies are shared by the CCCSC Family of Schools representatives with the Catholic School Councils they represent. Catholic School Councils are, in turn, to offer the parents in their community these faith opportunities to share with their own families.

- The CCCSC In-Service Committee (comprised of elementary and secondary administrators, the Superintendent supporting the work of CCCSC and the Chair of CCCSC) has started to plan the events that will be offered to parents and families in the 2014 – 2015 school year.
  - Planning for the Family of Schools Chairs event on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Training of Catholic School Council Executive Members on November 1st, 2014 and the Market Place on April 11th, 2015 has begun.
  - The individual mid-winter Family of Schools events will be open to the community of the host Family and, where possible, will accommodate parents from other families who are interested in the event. The parents of the host Family will be given preference to attend.
- Superintendent Mazzorato thanked Trustee O’Toole for informing the CCCSC of the concerns voiced by parents regarding the start-up of the school year and, as Superintendent of Early Years, will work towards ensuring that the issues related to FDK are addressed. This is the first year that all Dufferin-Peel elementary schools offered FDK and enrolment in a number of schools exceeded projections.
- Math is the subject of focus in the Catholic Board Learning Plan this year and there is a concerted effort being made in terms of supporting administrators and teachers and also in supporting parent engagement.
- The possibility of holding an evening webinar for new Catholic School Council chairs is being explored. This will give the new chairs an opportunity to call in and ask questions around basic operations, by-laws and regulations pertaining to school councils. The webinar would enable CCCSC to be more responsive to the needs of chairs and to enable them to be more confident in their role and understanding of all aspects of school councils.
- The resource binder for Catholic School Councils is being revised with the goal of completion by February 2015. A template is being developed to be used by all schools that outlines the by-laws associated with Catholic School Councils. The template will include by-laws that cannot be altered and local by-laws that individual schools may develop.
- A short clip entitled “You Can Learn Anything” produced by the Khan Academy, was shared with the committee.  
<https://www.khanacademy.org/youcanlearnanything>

3. *OAPCE Report – K. Magandal (OAPCE Representative Alternate)*

- Brian Evoy, President of OAPCE, has requested the study of two topics, the Educational Funding Consultations and the introduction of EQAO Online – the move to computer-based provincial assessments online that has been proposed by its directors. More information will be provided at the next CCCSC meeting.

4. *SEAC Report – R. MacBean*

- At the first meeting of the new school year, SEAC chose the topics they wanted to focus on during the year, EQAO being one of them.
- The new board website is easier to navigate and is more parent-friendly. Under the SEAC tab, links have been put in place for all associated Special Education organizations, including S.T.O.P.R.

- Certain summer school courses for diverse learners were offered on-line in Ottawa and the research showed that there was a very low failure rate. A higher failure rate could be due to students enrolling in the wrong courses.
- SEAC applied for a Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant and was approved for a \$10,000 regional grant.

5. *Parish Report* – I. Della Rosa & E. Mazzotta

- Dr. Ogundele, I. Della Rosa and E. Mazzotta have been working for the past ten years to support and help the Parish Representatives who are appointed to Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Councils. In recent years, the trend has been to appoint new Parish Representatives instead of reappointments. The first meeting is usually held at the November Training of Catholic School Council Executives where the Parish Representatives are informed of their role and duties. A breakfast and a potluck dinner are held during the year.
- The Archdiocese of Toronto website contains information about upcoming events, news and resources. <http://www.archtoronto.org/>
- Cardinal Collins has asked Catholics to pray for, support and help the Christians who are being persecuted in Iraq.
- A Faith Formation program will be held by the Archdiocese on September 26<sup>th</sup> to train parishioners to help prepare children for the sacraments.

6. *Family of Schools Reports*

- On October 8, 2014, St. Ursula will host a guest speaker, Ron Morrish, who will talk about the “Secrets of Discipline”. Other schools in the area have been contacted and invited to attend the talk.
- St. Ursula Catholic School Council hosted a barbecue to welcome parents to the school and gave them the opportunity to meet the teaching staff.
- St. Marguerite D’Youville Catholic School Council will be holding an All Candidates debate for the seven people running for the position of Trustee, Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board, Brampton Wards 7 – 10. The debate is scheduled to take place on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

**D. Information / Committee Updates – Chair**

1. Correspondence – Nil

2. *Chair’s Report* - G. Rodney

- G. Rodney highlighted the main events on the 2014 – 2015 CCCSC Calendar of Events, including the Family of Schools Chairs Meeting, the first CCCSC meeting of the 2014 - 2015 year that will be held at the CEC at 7.00 p.m. in Room 302 on Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, the Training for Catholic School Council Executive Members and the Market Place.
- There was a lot of positive feedback from the parent community with respect to the workshops that were held at the 75<sup>th</sup> OAPCE Conference & AGM that was hosted by Dufferin-Peel.
- Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant – 2014-2015
  - School Based Grants  
Each year the Ministry offers all school councils an opportunity to apply to a grant to encourage parent engagement. This year, 73 Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Councils applied for and were approved for grants ranging up to \$1,000. The projects submitted covered a wide range of topics, the most popular being mental health, health & fitness,

raising resilient kids, family literacy and math resources. The projects have to be completed by June 30, 2015, and a final report submitted to the Ministry by August 31, 2015.

o Regional Grant

CCCSC submitted an application for a regional Parent Reach Out Grant entitled “How We Learn: Student Talks For Parents”, requesting funding to produce a series of video vignettes of 5 – 7 minutes duration to give parents a window into the school experience of their children. The video series will provide parents with a first-hand look into the real classroom learning experience. They will be distributed to all Catholic School Councils to be used as a parent engagement tool and will also be available on the Dufferin-Peel website. The application was approved and the funding to be provided is \$22,500.

**E. Agenda items for next meeting - Nil**

**F. Closing Prayer - Our Father**

**G. Adjournment - 8.15 p.m.**

**H. Future Meetings**

*Wednesday, October 22, 2014*

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Thursday, January 15, 2015

Thursday, February 12, 2015

Thursday, April 9, 2015

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Thursday, June 11, 2015