



## MINUTES

### Central Committee for Catholic School Councils Meeting

Thursday, November 14, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre

Members: Drago Radic	Superintendent
Viviana Varano	Board Representative
Thomas Thomas	Trustee Representative
Diana Speranza	Principal/Vice-Principal Association Secondary
Anna Mather	DPSU OECTA Secondary Representative
Maria Commisso	OECTA Elementary
Rita Zambri	Brampton North Caledon Dufferin Elementary
Sunny Kanabe	Brampton North Caledon Dufferin Secondary
Sheena Tennessee	Brampton South Malton Elementary
Dianne Lopes	Brampton South Malton Secondary
Daniel Samaroo	Brampton West Elementary
Juanita Celenza	Brampton West Secondary
Caroline Roach	Mississauga East Secondary
Natasha Kovar	Mississauga South Elementary
Karen Barnet	Mississauga South Secondary
Amanda LeBlanc	Mississauga West Elementary
Jennifer Cazabon	Mississauga West Secondary
Gabriel Ogundele	Diocesan Representative
Diana Carlesimo	Ontario Associations for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE)
Mike Bruneto	Brampton East Caledon Dufferin Malton Secondary Alternate
Karen Dancy	Brampton South Malton Secondary Alternate
Tannice Ashman	Mississauga West Elementary Alternate
Dianne Cassar	Recorder and Executive Assistant

#### A. Routine Matters

1. Superintendent Radic called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Superintendent Varano led the Opening Prayer
3. Land Acknowledgment – Superintendent Radic
4. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Welcome and Declaration of CCCSC Representatives
    - i. Declaration of Conflict of Interest - Nil

Superintendent Radic prior to agenda approval clarified the following.

**B. Standing Items 1 - Trustee Thomas Thomas is representing our Trustees**

Standing Items 6 - Access DP at this time no longer has a committee member on CCCSC - this will be removed from the agenda.

5. Approval of Agenda, November 14, 2024

**Moved by** - N. Kovar

**Seconded by** - J. Cazabon

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.**

## **B. Standing Items**

1. Trustee Report – Trustee Thomas Thomas

Welcome to all new and returning members.

- I. 2023-2024 school year marked implementation of revised 2023-2027 Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) – the Ministry requires staff evaluate MYSP semi-annually. Survey data revealed several important themes across the 5 MSYP values – Believe, Excel, Respect, Thrive and Trust.
- II. 2023-2024 school year was the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of EQAO assessments and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Tests administered after being paused during the pandemic. At the elementary level, 10 schools have an identified Grade 3 focus, 17 schools have an identified Grade 6 focus, and 8 schools have an identified focus for both Grades 3 and 6. Three secondary schools have an identified focus for Grade 9. DPCDSB has eight elementary math facilitators and one secondary math facilitator working in our schools.
- III. The City of Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee (MSTSAC) promotes student safety to and from school. MSTSAC recognizes elementary schools in Mississauga through the Wilde Wood School Safety Award that demonstrated outstanding leadership in active transportation. This year two (2) elementary schools from each school board (Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the Peel District School Board) may be awarded \$500 to benefit the students in their school community.
- IV. Schools reported 40,549 elementary students and 30,235 secondary students, for a total enrolment of 70,784 students on October 31, 2024. This represents an enrolment decrease of 896 elementary students (-2.16 %) and an increase of 248 secondary students (0.83 %) since October 31, 2023. The overall board-wide enrolment decreased by 648 students (-0.91 %) from a year ago. This includes 60 elementary students enrolled in remote school accommodated at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Elementary School (CES) and 138 secondary students enrolled in the remote program at St. Paul Catholic Secondary Schools (CSS), for a total of 198 students.

1. G. Ogundele: When you talk about the decline in elementary schools, does the School Board have any reason for why?

Trustee Thomas Thomas: The overall decline is because of the property values going up, not only Dufferin Peel but GTA as well. Other boards are gaining, London, Niagara, St. Catherines and Cambridge, and we lost.

2. G. Ogundele: Are we looking into closing any elementary schools because of that?

Trustee Thomas Thomas: We do need to close a couple of schools but cannot do it. This takes a couple of years. There is a Ministry moratorium on school closures. Remember we closed St.

Gertrude and St. Dunstan. St. Dunstan is being used but St. Gertrude will be going on the market. We do not know when this will happen.

3. N. Kovar: Last year we requested a printout of the Trustee report so we could follow along. Could we do the same thing this year?

Superintendent Radic: Yes, we can connect with the trustee and see if he is able to provide that.

4. N. Kovar: Do we have data to support that enrollment is down due to real estate? Would the Board consider reaching back to the families that we lost and surveying them, why did they leave? Why did they choose not to return to Catholic education?

Superintendent Radic: This is certainly something we can take back to our research team and Senior Management and see if there is a way to gauge that.

5. C. Roach: In the Multi-Year Plan do you plan to include the vaping monitors? The vaping monitors that the Provincial government said they are going to have in schools now.

Superintendent Radic: We will follow up.

## 2. Superintendent Report – Superintendent Radic & Superintendent Varano

- I. CSC Training on November 28. Information will be provided next week. There are different sessions for different groups.
  - II. There is a virtual Parent Engagement presentation by Children's Aid Society (CAS) on November 21 at 6 p.m. Information was sent to all principals to send out to their communities.
  - III. Regarding funding we will be meeting with Finance next week. Does not foresee it being much different than what it was in the past. We will have the information for you at our next meeting and we can go from there.
1. D. Carlesimo: We do not visually have access to a vendors list. Is there a way to get a copy of the list of approved external presenters?

Superintendent Radic: We will take that back and follow up at our next meeting.

2. N. Kovar: There are a few questions from the community. Will there be to me at the end for a quick Q & A for follow-up at our next meeting?

Superintendent Radic: Moving forward, those items can be added to the agenda for the following meeting

## 3. OAPCE Report – D. Carlesimo

- I. Regional meeting held November 6<sup>th</sup> – Presentation Super Parents: Unlocking the Powers Advocacy, amazing turn out with 45 parents across DP in attendance.
- II. CSC procedures and bylaws. <https://www3.dpcdsb.org/parents/getting-involved/school-councils/csc-procedures--by-laws>

- III. Regional updates, reports and agendas can be found on our website <https://oapce.org/dufferin-peel/>
- IV. Instagram account is live - Follow us OAPCE85 and do not forget to follow us on X @OAPCEONTARIO Follow our new Facebook page OAPCE85!
- V. November edition Parent 2 Parent Press available <https://oapce.org/parents-4-parents/>
- VI. Subscribe to receive newsletters and communication <https://oapce.org/contact/> - Share with admin to send out to school community
- VII. Things for OAPCE Rep to share at your next meeting
  - a. Share October Parents4Parents newsletter
  - b. Share OAPCE Regional recap and welcome letter
  - c. Success of the 85th OAPCE Conference (highlights on website)
  - d. Ask ten parents to subscribe to our distribution list by visiting our website or [Subscribe here](#)
  - e. Share brochures on who OAPCE is and my contact email [dufferinpeel@oapce.org](mailto:dufferinpeel@oapce.org)
- VIII. Year of the Jubilee! The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Begins Dec 24, 2024 – Jan 6, 2026. <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>
- IX. Understanding the role of a DPCDSB trustee. Please review monthly trustee news and update reports sent out monthly via email.
- X. Next meeting is virtual in December.

1. G. Ogundele: The organization, Parents in Catholic Education. Has there been any concern from the parents as to the school, for example planning registration?

D. Carlesimo: There are but they have been very direct conversations. Certain parents in certain Family of Schools (FOS) that have brought up concerns but there has not been an overall like we are seeing a heavy decline or that they are feeling that sort of issue. Seems to be very school specific.

#### 4. SEAC Report – L. Clark

- I. Last meeting October 16, 2024. Presentation from SELS about program changes.
  - a. Support Transition Empower and Prepare (STEP) support students with Autism from Grades 3-6
  - b. Individualized Development of Experiences and Achievements (IDEA) program used to be called Elementary Needs Moderate and Severe Class
  - c. Support of Opportunities and Academic Resources (SOAR) 5-year secondary program supports students identified with autism spectrum disorder in regular class placement to earn Ontario Secondary School diploma. This is a referral program formally known as ASD.
  - d. ADVANTAGE 4–5-year program that supports students identified as exceptional in a regular class placement. This is a referred program.
  - e. (Realize Achieve Individualized Skills and experience (RAISE) formally known as Planning for Independence Program. Offered up to 7 years or the age of 21.
  - f. Academic Support Promoting Independence and Resource Exploration (ASPIRE) is formerly known as the secondary communication program. Offered up to 7 years or the age of 21.
  - g. Update on other 2 programs that happened earlier this year.
    - i. Students with Differing Abilities for the Sacraments – held on October 3, 2024

- ii. Navigating an IEP – held on October 19, 2024
- h. Next meeting is November 20, 2024

5. Diocesan/Parish Representative Report – G. Ogundele

- I. Make sure that parents understand the importance of Catholic education – it is our constitutional right.
  - II. Most of this information will be disseminated during the in-service training we get all the parish reps together.
  - III. Encourage everyone to encourage parish reps to attend.
  - IV. Normally the Bishop is invited to attend one of our meetings, if he cannot attend a parish rep meeting can he be included in our June 19<sup>th</sup> Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation and final meeting of the school year?
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- 1. M. Brunetto: Lots of moving parts around education and our Catholic faith. If you think about it, you have the youth ministers, the parish reps, and the pastors. Each school has a Pastoral Plan. How do you use this pastoral plan to bring all these elements together and bring that message home?
  - 2. G. Ogundele: That will be answered at the in-service training. For the mere fact that just to let the parents know that we got this triangle, the church, home and school – and how can we bring that all together. It is something that can be done and is always done. Parents just have to get involved with this situation.

**C. Information**

- 1. Correspondence – Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon - Nil
- 2. CCCSC In-Service Committee Update – Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon - Nil

**D. Action Items**

- 1. Planning for November 28<sup>th</sup> Training sessions – Superintendent Radic
  - I. Working on training sessions with more information to follow. If you have worked on these sessions, please send me an email.
- 1. D. Carlesimo: When it comes to the training sessions there are a few things:  
Our Board website is challenging. Can we get all the training videos posted in a place where it is accessible to everyone. There are a ton of parents that hold more than one spot on their councils and want to be able to share everything from that. So, if we can, just make sure that they are posted and stay up for a long period of time. Last year they were only up for a while and got lost in the mix and had to be reposted.  
  
Superintendent Radic: Yes, we will look into that.
- 2. K. Barnet: I understand that chairs and co-chairs need a Criminal Reference Check (CRC) and I do not know if that has been communicated to everybody. I know sometimes you need a letter when you go to the police station to try and get that done. I know they just do not do that for you anymore. Sometimes they do it on a need be basis. Where would someone get the declaration?  
Superintendent Radic: We will communicate on how that works so that people know the process. If you already have one where you can get the declaration. All this information should come from the

school. That is where it started from and that is where it should be streamlined from. We will follow up.

#### **E. Additional Items**

1. CCCSC Mandate, Policies and By-Laws – Superintendent Radic
  - A. Mandate of CCCSC members is to promote boards vision and values and sacramental life and catholic practices of Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) and be faithful to its mission - support, encourage and enhance meaningful parent engagement at the board level - improve student achievement and well-being within context of Catholic faith - provide information and advice, communicate, and support Catholic School Councils (CSC).
  - B. CCCSC members - responsible to support Catholic education, boards vision and values, faithful to mission, sacramental life, strategic planning and learning plans, promote shared responsibility of education of children, involving home school, parish, and community - communicate information to CSC and the Director of Education - utilize funding, effective practices, ensure schools are welcoming, reduce barriers, knowledge, and skill building.
  - C. Role of Chair - elected from parent representatives at first meeting of CCCSC each school year for two-year term - cannot serve more than two consecutive terms.
  - D. Vice-Chair - one year term - cannot serve more than three consecutive terms.
  - E. Meeting - majority must be parent members, two superintendents sit on the committee, and trustee must be present - minimum of four meetings per year- more are held, typically first Thursday - board room at 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and following agendas – items may be deferred to next month.
  - F. Privacy respected to all individuals - nothing specific regarding individual names, holding anonymity, and privacy - individual issues - collective work.
  - G. Quorum - majority of members that make up a meeting.
  - H. Agenda set by Chair in consultation with Superintendent, distributed minimum seven days in advance - with prior minutes for approval.
  - I. Observers are invited to attend CCCSC meetings - elected members may wish items to be brought as an agenda item – community members attend CCCSC meetings, they may bring items to their local CCCSC rep to facilitate that conversation through Chair.
  - J. Streamlining agendas - board meetings included - questions may be asked, but some items can be addressed at local CSC - localized concerns - items can be added to agendas.

#### **F. Appointment of New Committee**

1. Appointment of CCCSC Chair – Natasha Kovar
2. Appointment of CCCSC Vice-Chair – Jennifer Cazabon
3. Appointment of CCCSC Representative on Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) – ~~Sheena~~ Tennessee
4. Appointment of CCCSC Representatives (Elementary and Secondary) on School Year Calendar Committee
  - Elementary Rep – Amanda LeBlanc
  - Secondary Rep – Dianne Lopes

1. Barnet: Parents who are not reps are they able to watch online? They are just observers.

Superintendent Varano: We will follow up and get back to you.

2. G. Ogundele: Is there a reason there is a meeting on a Monday?

Superintendent Radic: These dates were established by the previous CCCSC committee and are approved by Exec Council. If we look at changing the date it will need to be approved by Exec Council. We will follow up.

3. Barnet: Have all the alternates received the email to come tonight?

Superintendent Radic: Yes, they did receive the email this morning. Moving forward they will be included in all emails.

4. J. Cazabon: Will the representatives be getting the list of all the chairs for their Family of Schools? The contact info so we can send out information.

Superintendent Radic: Yes, you will be receiving your Family of Schools list.

#### **G. Adjournment / Closing Prayer**

Closing Prayer was led by Superintendent Radic.

#### **H. Future Meetings**

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Monday, February 3, 2025

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Thursday, June 19, 2025 - Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation and final meeting of the school year.

#### **I. Adjournment**

**Moved by** - N. Kovar

**Seconded by** - K. Barnet

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:05 P.M.**