



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

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PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 23rd, 2020 Boardroom - 6:00 p.m.
Minutes

Attendance: Kathryn Ferguson, JoAnn DaSilva, Trustee Jennifer Cooney, Norma McDonald

1. Prayer & Welcome – **Prayer for Christian Unity Week** – January 18th – 25th. <https://www.weekofprayer.ca/2020-wpcu-resources>
2. Reviewed Meeting Minutes from October 10th, 2019
3. **Budget –**
 - **Parents Reaching Out Grants - \$9,201.28** has been allocated to CDSBEO to support: Parent Workshops, Parent Information Sessions including guest speakers, Parent Resources. PIC has decided to use our PRO grants to offer financial support to Catholic School Councils who have planned parent events or need parent resources. Norma will send an email to all school principals.
 - **PIC Funding Update - \$29,758.18**
Expenses paid to date include Welcome to Kindergarten lunch bags and fridge magnets for parents and new students. OAPCE dues paid by PIC totaling \$3,430 paid every September.
4. **Catholic School Council Guide** – CDSBEO's new Catholic School Council Guide was very well received. They were distributed to each member, who will in turn take these binders back to Catholic School Councils. Superintendent McDonald will send a reminder to principals to share the CSC binders with their Catholic School Councils. Trustee Cooney spoke to the importance of consistency across our Board and applauded the efforts of Trustee Wilson who directed creation of the guide. PIC members were very

Learning and Growing Together in Christ

pleased with the contents, especially the templates for agendas, sample constitution and forms.

5. **Regional PIC events discussion -**

PIC members were very impressed with the October presentation on homework help delivered by Curriculum consultants Meghan Wood and Mary Kate Bridson. It was suggested that 4 regional PIC evenings be held, one in each region, focusing on that presentation, links and resources for parents. Dates would be from April 20th – May 14th. Requested locations would be: Holy Trinity in Cornwall, St. Thomas Aquinas in Russell, Notre Dame in Carleton Place and St. Mary's CHS in Brockville. Superintendent McDonald will speak with Superintendent Bovaird to determine availability of consultants and potential dates. Once confirmation is received, Superintendent McDonald will secure schools and reach out to Catholic School Councils in the regions to promote. PIC members will attend each event to introduce the evening and promote PIC. PIC members would like to distribute a questionnaire to parents asking how PIC can support them. These will also be advertised on schools' Facebook and School Messenger.

Sharing PIC minutes: PIC members, please ensure PIC minutes are shared with Catholic School Councils. Superintendent McDonald will also share PIC minutes with principals and encourage principals to appoint a CSC member to take on this task of updates.

6. **Catholic Education Coalition events:**

Given the current political climate, PIC members agreed that leaving the CEC events the same as the previous school years would be best. (Last year feedback suggested hosting evening events so more parents could attend) A handout was provided to PIC members reviewing the 2018-19 school year CEC events – “Joy Sings from a Loving Heart” at St. Joseph CSS in Cornwall, Poverty Walk and Mass at St. Mary CHS in Brockville, Relay for Life event at St. John CHS in Perth, “Hearts to Love, Hands to Serve” food drive, mass and assembly in Prescott & Russell.

7. **Parent Involvement Committee membership/elections** – Most current Parent Involvement Committee members have completed their assignments this June, 2020. Norma will reach out to principals to have them advertise vacant positions through their Catholic School Councils and social media to their school parent communities.

- Prescott Russell – **Jessica Colwell (resigned. New PIC representative needed immediately)**

1. St. Jude, St. FX, St. Pat's Rockland, St. Thomas Aquinas, Pope John Paul II, Mother Teresa

- Alexandria/Cornwall South Glengarry - **JoAnn DaSilva (finished June, 2020)**

1. St. Finnan's, Iona Academy, Holy Trinity

- Prescott/Kemptville – **Kathryn Ferguson (remains with PIC until June, 2022)**

1. St. Mark, Holy Cross, St. Michael CHS

- Almonte, Carleton Place, Lanark – **Keri-Lyn Fletcher (finished June, 2020)**

1. Holy Name of Mary, St. Mary CP, St. Gregory, Notre Dame, Sacred Heart.

- Perth, Smith Falls – **Aynsley Gabriel-Buchanan (finished June, 2020)**

1. St. John Elementary, St. John CHS, St. Francis de Sales, St. Luke CHS.

- Cornwall, Ingleside, St. Andrews West, Chesterville, Morrisburg - **Aimee C. Vida (finished June, 2020)**

1. Bishop Macdonell, Sacred Heart, St. Anne, St. Peter, St. Matthew, St. Joseph, Our Lady of Good Council, St. Andrew's, St. Mary Chesterville, St. Mary-St. Cecilia.

- Brockville, Gananoque, Toledo, Westport (Leeds) – **Julie Ann Marshall (finished June, 2020)**

1. JL Jordan, St. Francis Xavier Brockville, St. John

Bosco, St. Mary CHS, St. Joseph Gan, St. Joseph Toledo, St. Edward.

PIC members are invited to serve more than one term; however, committee has agreed that attendance at PIC meetings is required. PIC members must attend a minimum of 3 meetings per school year to remain on Parent Involvement Committee. It is understood that conflicts with meeting dates can occur, regrets always accepted, but communication greatly appreciated.

8. **Other Business –**

Trustee Cooney shared the launch of *Planet Youth* in Lanark. <https://planetyouthlanark.ca/> This is a community collaborative initiative to prevent substance use in youth. She explained the community partners involved with the goal of collecting data through a survey with Grade 10 Civics students in three of our CDSBEO schools (St. John CHS, St. Luke CHS and Notre Dame CHS) and four Upper Canada School Board schools. Lanark will create leisure activities in the community to engage youth. It is based on the Icelandic model which has met with success and is the first time it will be used in Canada. Data is collected once a year for five years. Examples shared – Walkabouts organized by parents in the community on Friday nights for parents and students to gather. Another is Friendship groups where families host other families, each taking turns at their home, so parents get to know their children's friends and their parents.

9. **Next Meeting Date – Thursday, March 26th** Kemptville Board Office – Dinner at 5:30 pm.