



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

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## PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Minutes

1. **Prayer & Welcome** – Please see Remembrance Day Prayer attached to the email.
2. Reviewed new **membership for PIC** – CDSBEO PIC membership list, OAPCE representatives on our Catholic School Councils, as well as our Catholic School Council Chairs are attached to this email for our Parent Involvement Committee to assist with communication throughout member's regions.
3. Reviewed **virtual meeting minutes** from May 2020.
4. Presentation on our new **Virtual Learning Elementary School** – Superintendent McDonald presented a slide deck on our Virtual Learning Elementary School. As of Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, enrollment in our VLES was 1571 students. We have roughly 81% of our CDSBEO students attending school in-person with roughly 17% enrolled in our VLES. We reviewed the breakdown in our schools, number of devices loaned, staff resources, virtual teaching and learning platforms, digital resources purchased by our Board, parent resources, parent brochure and newsletter for the VLES, daily routines and activities, virtual classroom activities, parent feedback.
5. **Budget** – Our PIC account is healthy as we have a carry over from August as well as our yearly GSN allocation of \$7,232. We have paid our OAPCE dues of \$3,430. We also have Parents Reaching Out Grants of \$9,107 to support parent workshops, parent information sessions including guest speakers, and parent resources.
6. **Next Meeting Date** – January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – virtual meeting
7. **Other Business** –

- **Confirmed Dr. Jean Clinton** as guest speaker for February 17<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm. Please confirm a specific theme or goal of our

*Learning and Growing Together in Christ*

event. We also must let them know how many we will have in attendance.

- **Support for parents navigating the virtual learning platforms:**  
Reached out to the Curriculum and Student Success Departments and shared your ideas for recording sessions for parents and making them available through our social media. The Curriculum Department was very open to this and will be providing both a list of what is currently available as well as what they would be willing to create. More will be coming from them shortly.
- Our Student Success Department was also very happy to share information. Here information with respect to the Brightspace platform used for grades 9-12.
- **BrightSpace for Parents**
- BrightSpace for Parents does exist. CDSBEO has opted to provide the student's login information to the parent instead of using BrightSpace for Parents. This would be the school email and school password.
- Some of the concerns we had about BrightSpace for Parents were the following:
  - The "dashboard" for the parents cannot be customized. This is the landing spot for parents.
  - If there are siblings in the board, there were some hiccups regarding the dashboard because of the multiple children.
  - If two parent email addresses are listed it would not work.
  - We continue to monitor and if we do get to a place, we would reach out at that time for approval.

#### **Notifications**

For every account in BrightSpace, notifications can be set by the user for any course they are enrolled in. If there are changes that are happening in the class, you can pick and choose what notifications you would like to receive.

#### **Pulse App**

This is something similar to notifications but it's available through an app. It's a quick view at the course. You would have access to the course content and you can see the announcements as well. You can not upload assignments. Students would need to log their parent in on their phone and then they should remain logged in.