



York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
April 24, 2023
7 p.m. – Virtual Meeting Google Meet
MINUTES

PRESENT:

Committee Member(s): **In Person:** Olufisayo Bolarinwa, Melena Carrassi, Peter De Quintal, Sara Angela Figliomeni, Sahir Jamal, Martina Saverino, Sarah Tjin-a-joe, Jaclyn Toma
Virtual: Jan De Souza, Gabriella Marchione, Emanuela Polin-De Luca, Singai Rani Wilson, Maurizio Ruberto, Andrea Telfer, Florence Wang

Administration: **In Person:** Domenic Scuglia, Jennifer Sarna
Virtual: Marylinda Lamarra, OECTA Rep

Trustee(s): Elizabeth Crowe (In Person), Theresa McNicol (Virtual until 8:42 pm)

Other Trustee(s): Maria Iafrate (In Person), Angela Saggese (Virtual)

Guest(s): Cristina Allegranza, Mark Brosens, Marcelle McShine-Quao

Recording Secretary: Maurizio Ruberto

REGRETS:

Committee Member(s): Teresa Abbruscato, Kristina Costabile, Tony Lorini, Maria Praveen, Rosanna Soda

Administration(s): Andre Belille, Evonne Carafa

Trustee(s): N/A

1.0 WELCOME / PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

YCPIC Chair Sara Figliomeni welcomed everyone and led the opening prayer followed by the Land Acknowledgement.

2.0 CALL TO ORDER

The YCPIC meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Emanuela Polin-DeLuca

Seconded: Florence Wang

MOTION CARRIED

4.0 ROLL CALL

Absent: Teresa Abbruscato, Kristina Costabile, Tony Lorini, Maria Praveen, Rosanna Soda

5.0 APPROVAL OF UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING – January 30, 2023

Motion: Martina Saverino

Seconded: Florence Wang

MOTION CARRIED

6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

School Day (Nov 28, 2022 YCPIC Meeting) – *The decision to incorporate the transaction fee costs into the overall cost of the product or service was made at the outset of the implementation, based on an understanding that most School Boards have adopted a similar cost model, and due to the benefits supplied to the parents of convenience and credit card rebates.*

Snow Removal (Jan 30, 2023 YCPIC Meeting) - *We do not have anything in our Policy or Procedures that regulate snow removal cleaning. Our custodians prioritize safety and ensure walkways we have responsibility for are plowed to ensure safe passage. Parents should bring any concerns forward to their School Principal.*

Equitable Distribution of Resources in YCDSB Schools (Jan 30, 2023 YCPIC Meeting) - *A meeting was held with the Finance Department where generic fundraising questions and concerns were brought forward to brainstorm ideas that would benefit YCDSB students.*

School Messenger – Drop Down Menu (Nov 28, 2022 YCPIC Meeting)

7.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Scuglia remarked as follows:

“We are still in the season of Easter and coming to a wonderful time in our schools. Many events allowed students to reflect on the miracle that God has brought into our lives, through His Son, and the greatest miracle of course, Jesus’ resurrection and schools were all involved. I was invited to Stations of the Cross at St. Clement CES on Holy Thursday – it was a beautiful rendition of the Stations of the Cross put on by the students.

Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week (CEW) runs from April 30 to May 5, 2023, with the theme We are Many, We are One. There will be many activities that will be taking place including a province-wide Mass that will be held on May 3 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica and it will be live-streamed for anyone who wants to join in.

Autism Awareness Month

April is World Autism Month and April 2 marked World Autism Awareness Day. Our schools held many unique and engaging events on April 2 and throughout the month of April to help build a greater understanding, promote acceptance and encourage conversations about Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Humanitarian Relief for Turkey and Syria

Following the tragic earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, our schools and CEC pulled together last month to raise funds for the Archdiocese of Toronto’s humanitarian relief effort for those impacted by the earthquakes. In total, we raised \$30,857.39 which will be a great support for our brothers and sisters in need.

FDK Videos

We are very excited to present two brand-new videos showcasing our incredible full-day kindergarten program. The first video showcases play-based learning through the eyes of a kindergarten student who gives a tour of her typical school day. The second video showcases the full-day kindergarten experience from the perspective

of our professional educators. Both videos highlight that we encourage our youngest students to explore their worlds in a setting that provides opportunities to play, learn and grow in a Christ-centred environment.

Terry Fox School Run

Three YCDSB schools were among Ontario's top 50 fundraisers for the Terry Fox School Run Fundraisers of 2022. St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS (#14 in secondary division), St. Robert CHS (#16) and St. Augustine CHS (#22) raised more than \$39,000 amongst them.

Twitter Break

We recently filmed another excellent episode of "Twitter Break with Director Dom." and was joined by two impressive secondary students, Erica from Father Bressani and Kavi from Cardinal Carter, who participated in the Horizons Conference at the CEC on Tuesday, April 18. They discussed the conference, the Mental Health Ambassador program, what schools are doing to promote positive mental health and a new survey that will be shared with students, staff and families in May to help create a YCDSB mental health strategy. We plan to post the episode in the first week of May, which is Children's Mental Health Week.

Stouffville Multi-Use Facility

We have communicated to our Whitchurch-Stouffville community that unfortunately the multi-use facility where our Blessed Chiara Badano CES and St. Katharine Drexel CHS students will learn has once again been delayed. We have developed a contingency plan which will allow these students to join their new school communities in September 2023. They will learn in existing school buildings until the multi-use facility is ready. More information can be found on the YCDSB website.

Board Delegations

Further to the Delegations at the last few Board Meetings, Director noted that we, as a School Board, continue to pray, prioritize the safety and well-being and create a sense of belonging for all our students and that includes students who identify with the 2SLGBTQAI+. The Board of Trustees and the Senior Team continue to engage in conversations.

Friday, June 30, 2023

Elementary schools will open in the morning and close at the lunch bell on Friday, June 30, 2023. This will give staff the opportunity to prepare the school for the summer and to welcome students back in September. Transportation will pick up students at lunch and drop them off at their regular bus stop.

2023-2024 School Year Calendar

It was noted that the 23-24 School Year Calendar was submitted to the Ministry for approval."

8.0 CHAIR'S REPORT, 2022

YCPIC Chair, Sara Figliomeni provided an update on the February 9, 2023 Conference with Keynote Speaker Dr. Andrew B. Campbell, *Allyship, Advocacy & Action for Authentic Inclusion*. There were 208 people registered and the conference was well received.

9.0 TREASURER'S REPORT, 2022

YCPIC Treasurer, Andrea Telfer provided the Treasurer's Report as of April 24, 2023.

10. OAPCE's REPORT/ UPDATE

York OAPCE Rep, Sara Tjin-Joe provided a presentation on the OAPCE Regional Council Conference held in Kingston, Ontario on April 22, 2023. The meeting was held with guest speaker Dr. Josephine Lombardi, who teaches theology at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto. There was also a presentation by Theresa Kennedy, Associate Director of School Mental Health Ontario and Miguel Martinez on his presentation on "Co-Parenting with Christ". YCPIC shall consider subsidizing a portion of the conference for OAPCE reps.

11.0 PRESENTATION

a) Multi-Year Strategic Plan Update

J. Sarna, Associate Director provided an overview of the YCDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan for 2023-2028. There will be a new Mission, Vision, Core Values and Strategic Commitments. Strategic Priorities and Strategic Goals were developed in each of the four Strategic Commitments. An update will be provided at the April 25, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

b) Student Census

M. McShine-Quao, YCDSB Educational Researcher presented information on student census titled, Using Data to Eliminate Barriers to Students' Achieving Their Full Potential.

c) YCDSB Website Redesign

M. Brosens, Senior Manager, Brand, Marketing & Communications shared an update on the redesign of the Board's website to make it more user-friendly and more aesthetically pleasing.

12.0 ACTION ITEM(S): N/A

13.0 DISCUSSION ITEM(S):

a) Catholic School Council Constitution Status

J. Sarna, Associate Director advised that a YCPIC Sub-Cmte came together to draft a YCDSB Constitution. A google form will be sent to all members of the YCPIC Committee to provide their feedback. The revamping of the Constitution was to provide more clarity and highlight regulations to provide cohesiveness to ensure there is a level of uniformity.

b) Equitable Distribution of Resources

M. Saverino, YCPIC Vice-Chair advised that she met with the Board's Chief Financial Officer to discuss fundraising ideas/options in an effort to make it equitable for all YCDSB students. One idea that was feasible was district-wide fundraising that would get distributed to all schools. If the Board proceeds in this direction, an update will be provided. YCPIC to provide feedback.

c) Successful Parent Engagement Activities

M. Saverino, YCPIC Vice-Chair asked the YCPIC Committee for ideas to enhance parent engagement. The possibility of having a Saturday Conference was suggested. The YCPIC Committee was tasked with bringing forward suggestions for the 2023-2024 school year.

d) 2023-2024 YCPIC Membership

D. Scuglia, Director of Education reminded the YCPIC Committee to submit their 2023-2024 YCPIC Membership at their earliest convenience.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Figliomeni adjourned the meeting at 9:45 PM.

Motion: Sarah Figliomeni

Seconded: Martina Saverino

MOTION CARRIED