

YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, April 4, 2016
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

- Committee Member(s):** Jimmy Au-Yeung, Jeremy D'Souza, Januario de Souza, Agatha Fallone Cretaro, Meeta Kirkham, Marion Menezes, Donna Psaila, Danny Scenna, Rosanna Soda
- Administration(s):** Patricia Preston, Director of Education, Nancy Di Nardo, Superintendent of Education, Olga Ferro, Principal
- Trustee(s):** Carol Cotton, Chair of the Board
- Guest(s):** Diane Murgaski, Superintendent of Education, Curriculum and Assessment, Darlene Clapham, Chief Information Officer, Teresa Ciaravella, Trustee
- REGRETS:**
- Committee Member(s):** Teresa Ambroz, Mary Giardina, Yolanda Lobo, Rosa Micieli, Emanuela Polin-De Luca, Maurizio Ruberto, Maria Snider, Jennifer Wigston
- Trustee(s):** Theresa McNicol
- Recording Secretary:** Agatha Fallone Cretaro

1.0 WELCOME/PRAYER

Jan de Souza, YCPIC Chair, welcomed everyone present and reminded everyone about the contents of the package, i.e. agenda, prayer and unapproved meeting minutes. A prayer was said by all.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA – APRIL 4, 2016

Motion: Au-Yeung/Menezes

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Motion: Au-Yeung/Kirham

THAT the Minutes of Meeting of January 18, 2016, be approved as amended.

1. Trustees: Carol Cotton was present for January 18, 2016 meeting.
2. YCPIC Member: Donna Psaila present for the meeting.

3. Guests: Add name of School (St. Raphael).
4. Add to the minutes: Update that guests Veronica and Suzanne provided presentation on Cashless Schools.
5. Page 4 of 5 in 7.0 Sub-Committees. YCPIC Member's name is wrong says "Maryann" in two places needs to be changed to "Marion".

MOTION CARRIED

4.0 PRESENTATION:

21ST CENTURY LEARNING UPDATE

Presented by: Diane Murgaski, Superintendent of Education: Curriculum and Assessment and Darlene Clapham, Chief Information Officer.

5.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT/UPDATE

Good evening, everyone. It's been a couple of months since we gathered together and I would like to welcome you all back from the March Break and Easter Break. I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Easter with family and friends.

Annual Report

I have shared with you a copy of my Director's Annual Report for 2014-2015. This report is a Ministry requirement, but we also use this as a communication tool to help promote the excellent work at York Catholic. Please take a moment to look through the report as many of your schools are featured. Copies of the Annual Report have been shared with various members of the YCDSB Community including: Mayors, Members of Provincial Parliament, all of our parishes, and our schools will receive copies shortly.

Budget Development

The Board is in the process of developing the Budget for the 2016-2017 School Year. As in previous years, information on this process will be posted to our website. We also invite stakeholder consultation each year. This consultation will take place on two different occasions, at our public board meetings on May 31st and June 21st. Our Board of Trustees will be approving the final budget at a Special Meeting of the Board on June 30th.

LTAP Update

Under year one of our five year, Long Term Accommodation Plan, we are currently conducting Pupil Accommodation Reviews in the Vaughan Thornhill and South Woodbridge East communities.

Pupil Accommodation Reviews are a community consultation process which give our parents/guardians and community members the opportunity to provide input to the Board on the proposed recommendations from staff to address declining enrolment in each area.

The excess space in schools, which is currently over 6000 pupil places, represents a significant unfunded expense to the Board to heat, clean and maintain empty classrooms resulting in funds being diverted away from where it is most needed - supporting student learning and achievement.

We will be conducting these reviews Board-wide until 2020 to ensure the Board is efficiently using available space to accommodate students.

CSC Consultation: Video Surveillance

The Board recently updated Policy 705, Use of Video Surveillance Equipment, to reflect recent legislative changes (*Guidelines for the Use of Video Surveillance*, October 2015). The Board of Trustees approved this policy subject to community consultation. The consultation process will occur from March 31st – May 9th. Information was sent to School Principals last week, and they will be sharing this information with you at your Council meetings.

Surveys: Christmas and MYSP

The Board has shared a number of surveys with our parent community in the last couple of months and I thank you all parents for their attention to these requests.

As you know, we introduced a survey inviting parents and staff for their opinion on the Christmas Vacation Schedule for 2016/17. This was a very popular survey with nearly **20,000** parents and staff taking part – Option 2 was the more favorable option with 77% of the votes. This means that for the next school year, the last day of classes before the Christmas Break will be December 23, 2016, and we will be returning on January 9, 2017. Our calendar has been shared with the Ministry of Education for final approval and information regarding the School Year Calendar for 2016/2017 will be available on our website later this spring.

Our work on the Multi-Year Strategic Plan continues. On February 1st, we launched our Strategic Plan Awareness Survey. I thank you for your support and participation in this survey as well. Over 8,000 YCDSB stakeholders completed the survey. The largest stakeholders were parents (5818 parents – a percentage of 77.9%). Our research department is collating the data and we will share the findings with you in the fall.

ShareLife Week

ShareLife Week has been set for April 4th to 8th for the York Catholic District School Board. YCDSB schools are committed to participating fully in ShareLife every year. Staff and students are busy throughout the week preparing activities and fundraisers in support of ShareLife. Last year, the Board raised close to \$150,000 for ShareLife.

Edtech Conference – Elementary Students

On February 29, the Board hosted the 1st Annual Ed Tech Day for Elementary Students. I would also like to congratulate the Curriculum and IT Dept on the very successful *event*. The conference provided our students with hands-on activities and an opportunity to listen to Blake Fly, a YCDSB alumni, who spoke to students about Social Media Safety. His message about ‘thinking before posting’ and ‘sharing kind posts,’ resonated with our elementary students.

Mental Health Symposiums

On April 1st, 2016, the YCDSB hosted its 1st Annual **Elementary** Student Mental Health Symposium entitled “BE empowered” to promote mental health and well-being in students. The event took place here at the CEC and included a very engaging presentation by keynote speaker, Dr. Joel Goldberg, a Psychology Professor from York University. Students

participated in a series of break-out sessions with a focus on Mental Health Awareness and Coping Skills. This day was a highly positive experience and students and staff returned to their schools with information and resources regarding effective coping skills.

A symposium for Secondary Students took place on today, also at the CEC. Dr. Goldberg returned to talk to our secondary students about positive mental health, resiliency and mindfulness. Our secondary students participated in workshops with a focus on coping skills. These are skills that we know our students will carry with them through to their post-secondary years.

As part of these events, the Board launched a Mental Health Video Contest. Winning videos will be used to promote Mental Health initiatives around the Board. Students were invited to submit videos depicting mental health awareness.

Congratulations to the following winners.

Elementary

- 1st Place - St David
- 2nd Place - St Charles Garnier
- 3rd Place - Christ the King

Secondary

- 1st Place - St Theresa for the video entitled Join the Conversation
- 2nd Place - St Theresa for the video entitled, Talk to a Friend
- 3rd Place - Cardinal Carter, for the video entitled, You are not alone

Both events were excellent and I thank our Special Services team and Mental Health leads for organizing this day.

Milestones for York Catholic

April, May and June will be wonderfully busy for our Board as we celebrate a number of anniversary milestones.

- St. Julia Billiard CES, April 8, 2016 - 10th Anniversary
- St. Mark CES, April 25, 2016 - 50th Anniversary
- Our Lady of Grace CES, May 1, 2016 - 60th Anniversary
- St. Jean de Brebeuf CHS, May 3, 2016 - 10th Anniversary
- St. Jerome CES, May 19, 2016 - 10th Anniversary
- Holy Family CES, June 6 with a Mass, June 10 with a BBQ - 25th Anniversary

Closing

In one month, we will be celebrating Catholic Education Week and this is a beautiful time in our school communities. Catholic Education Week is also the time that we announce the winners of our Annual YCDSB Distinguished Alumni Campaign.

The theme for Catholic Education Week this year is *Opening Doors of Mercy*. All Catholic high schools across in Ontario are hosting a special student-led Mass on May 5th. This province-

wide event has been organized by the Catholic Student Trustees who make up the Catholic Board Council of the Ontario.

I know that many of our schools are very busy preparing a number of Spring Concerts and activities in time for Catholic Education Week and I look forward to sharing some of those highlights at our next meeting.

For the next 50 Days we celebrate the Easter Season. During these 50 days of Easter, we are reminded to reflect on the Lord's presence and to live with joy. As we journey together towards Pentecost, I wish you a joyous and blessed Easter Season.

Thank you.

6.0 CHAIR'S UPDATE/REPORT

February 18, 2016: YCPIC Subcommittee Working Session

- o Very productive session, all 4 subcommittee's had a chance to discuss their plans;
- o Sets a foundation for next steps;
- o Well attended with 13 YCPIC Members;
- o Updates from Sub-Committee Leads to follow.

YCPIC Membership Renewal Status

- o Per our By-Law we can have a maximum of 25 parent members;
- o 11 of the current YCPIC Parent Members will return for another term;
- o We will be able to accept 14 new parent members.

YCPIC New Parent Members

- o Application period has ended and successful candidates will be contacted mid May 2016.

YCPIC Community representatives

- o Per our By-Law we can have a maximum of 3 community representatives.

Policy 705: USE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT

- o The Board is seeking input from community stakeholders to draft Policy 705;
- o The feedback form is to be remitted to the attention of Jeannie Di Bratto, Director's Office, no later than Monday, May 9th.

Barrie Regional PIC Symposium – Saturday April 9, 2016

- o For the first time ever, the symposium will take place in regions across Ontario;
- o It was open to 2 parent members of our PIC plus 5 parent participants;
- o Unfortunately does not look like we will have any representation this year of Parents from our board. Marion and Donna will try to attend.

OAPCE Conference 2016

- o Friday/Saturday May 6/7 at Madonna Catholic Secondary School;
- o In addition to Maurizio and Mary we also have Jeremy attending the conference.

Pro-Grants 2016-2017 School Year (School Councils & Regional)

- o Motion put forth that YCPIC in partnership with York CDS board apply for the Regional Pro Grant for School Year 2016-2017. First motion Jimmy Au-Yeung, Second motion Maryanne Menezes, All in favor. Motion passed.

- o PRO-Grant Workshop on April 27th, for Catholic School Councils at York CDSB.

CSC Conference - Connected Parenting

- o Saturday, April 16th, 2016;
- o Jean Vanier CHS, 10475 Bayview Avenue, Richmond Hill;
- o 8:30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Light Refreshments/Networking. Coffee/Tea/Water/Mini Muffins and Mini Cookies;
- o Cafeteria service provider at Jean Vanier;
- o YCPIC members can do a quick Welcome to make sure we start on time at 9:00 a.m.;
- o Immediately we can get a YCPIC member say the opening prayer and introduce the student; A Parent Prayer has been selected by Michael Way Skinner;
- o A Student has been chosen by the Principal to sing the National Anthem;
- o After the student sings the National Anthem we can have;
- o Donna to do the formal welcome & introduction of the speaker;
- o Keynote Speaker: Jennifer Kolari;
- o After the speaker ends her show, we can have YCPIC member to thank the Speaker/Parents attending, thank the Principal and all the student volunteers and staff who welcome us to their school and help make this conference a reality;
- o Books for parents attending have been ordered & will need to be distributed;
- o Communication team at YCDSB is creating the slide presentation;

7.0 OAPCE'S REPORT

No updates.

8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE

No Date was determined.

9.0 ADJORNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Chair, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. EST.