

YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (YCPIC)



York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
Monday, November 25, 2024, CEC Board Room (1st Floor)
6:30 pm

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Committee Member(s): **In Person:** Robyn De Cicco, Ashley Fruci, Karen Galeano,
Christina Gillison, Maria Praveen,
Martina Saverino, Genevieve Simnett, Rachel Sun,
Jaclyn Toma, Yan Zhou
Virtual: Josie Belluomini, Olufisayo Bolarinwa, Leilani
Cabral, Melena Carrassi, Binu S. George,
Marcos Paulino, Florence Wang, Nicole Young

Administration: **In Person:** John De Faveri, Jennifer Sarna
Helena DiPanfilo, Dishni Kiriella
Virtual: N/A

Trustee(s): **In Person:** Maria Iafrate
Virtual: N/A

Guest(s): **Staff:** Michelle Prinzo, Mental Health Lead
Trustee: Angela Saggese

Recording Secretary: Silvana Greco

REGRETS:

Committee Member(s): Samantha Ferazzoli, Rina George-Alexander, Eby Ijeh,
Sahir Jamal, Sarah Tjin-a-joe
Administration(s): Marylinda Lamarra (OECTA Rep)
Trustee(s): Elizabeth Crowe

1.0 WELCOME / PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Interim Director De Faveri welcomed all the new YCPIC members (including Trustee) and thanked those YCPIC members (including Trustee) that have stepped down. Interim Director led the opening prayer followed by the Land Acknowledgement.

2.0 CALL TO ORDER

Interim Director De Faveri called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

3.0 ROLL CALL

Absent: Samantha Ferazzoli, Rina George-Alexander, Eby Ijeh, Sahir Jamal, Sarah Tjin-a-joe

4.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT/UPDATE

Interim Director John De Faveri remarked as follows:

Inaugural Board Meeting

At the Inaugural Meeting of the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB), held on Monday, November 18, 2024, Elizabeth Crowe, Trustee for Aurora/King/Whitchurch-Stouffville, was acclaimed Chair of the Board and Maria Iafrate, Trustee for Richmond Hill, was acclaimed Vice Chair of the Board.

YCPIC Community Reps

Applications are currently being taken for two Community Reps for YCPIC. Information is posted on our website. Deadline is December 1, 2024

Mural Unveiling for Vaughan Culture Days

On October 8, 2024, Trustees, YCDSB staff and students witnessed the unveiling of two murals created by Functional Life Skills students of St. Jean de Brebeuf CHS and St. Elizabeth CHS. The murals did an excellent job exploring the theme of "Unity in Diversity." The murals were unveiled in Vellore Village Community Centre as part of Vaughan Culture Days.

Solemn Blessing & Official Opening of Blessed Chiara Badano CES and St. Katharine Drexel CHS

On October 18 we held the blessing of Blessed Chiara Badano Catholic Elementary School and St. Katharine Drexel Catholic High School in Stouffville with overwhelming success. The two school communities came together and had Mass celebrated by Bishop Boissonneau.

OLQW Students Sing at the Cardinal's Dinner

A quartet of singers from Our Lady Queen of the World Catholic Academy in Richmond Hill performed the national anthem at the 45th annual Cardinal's Dinner on November 5, 2024. Their God-given talent truly came through in their performance, which set the right tone for the inspiring evening of fellowship for the Catholic community in the Greater Toronto Area.

Take Our Kids to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 6, 2024, the Catholic Education Centre and some York Catholic schools hosted Take Our Kids to Work Day sessions. Take Our Kids to Work Day is always a joy because children bring positive energy to the workplace, and it is fun to help young people consider their educational pathways.

CHUM Christmas Wish and Vaughan Toy Drive Kickoff

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Academy in Woodbridge had the pleasure of hosting the CHUM Christmas Wish and Vaughan Toy Drive kickoff celebration on Monday, November 18, 2024. Thank you to the energetic students, staff and families who arrived at 6:45 am. We were happy to welcome CP24, who broadcasted live from the school starting at 6:45 am, and Vaughan Mayor Steven Del Duca.

Inclement Weather Reminder

Information was sent to all families regarding inclement weather on November 18. Of special note, If school transportation is cancelled due to inclement weather and /or poor road conditions, Schools remain open unless otherwise stated and Remote Continuing Education classes will continue to run. If school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will not operate in the afternoon.

Counter Human Trafficking and Online Exploitation Information Sessions

I want to thank the YCDSB staff and the York Regional Police for organizing three information sessions for students and families on countering human trafficking and online exploitation. The first session at Father Bressani in Woodbridge drew about 170 people. Additional sessions will be held on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, from 7-9 p.m. at St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS in Aurora and Thursday, November 28, 2024, from 7-9 p.m. at Father Bressani CHS in Vaughan. Everyone is welcome to attend these sessions. We have received multiple requests to host additional sessions in other high schools, and staff is currently investigating if this is possible.

In Closing

When Catholics think of December, they often think of Advent and Christmas. But did you know that December is also the Month of Immaculate Conception in the Catholic calendar? In Catholic theology, the Blessed Virgin Mary is “The New Eve” and “The Mother of God,” a remarkable example of what is possible with great faith and trust in God’s plan for us. For that reason, many York Catholic schools are named after the Blessed Virgin Mary. From St. Mary Immaculate in Richmond Hill to Our Lady of Grace in Aurora to Our Lady of the Lake in Keswick (and so many more), we honour Mother Mary throughout York Catholic every day and in a particular way in December.

Wishing all the YCPIC Committee a Blessed Advent Season.

5.0 INTERIM DIRECTOR DECLARED THE YCPIC 2023-2024 DISSOLVED

6.0 ELECTION OF 2024-2026 OFFICERS

- Procedures for the elections were explained
- Interim Director requested nominees for each position

Chair:	OPEN (Year 1 of a 2 Year Term)
Vice-Chair:	OPEN (Year 1 of a 2 Year Term)
Treasurer:	OPEN (Year 1 of a 2 Year Term)
Secretary:	OPEN (Year 1 of a 2 Year Term)

Election of Chair:

- Martina Saverino nominated by Robyn De Cicco
 - Yan Zhou nominated by Rachel Sun. Mr. Zhou did not accept the nomination.
- There being no other nominee, Martina Saverino was declared YCPIC Chair.

Election of Vice-Chair:

- Jaclyn Toma nominated by Martina Saverino
- There being no other nominee, Jaclyn Toma was declared YCPIC Vice-Chair.

Election of Treasurer

- Christina Gillison nominated by Martina Saverino
- There being no other nominee, Christina Gillison was declared YCPIC Treasurer.

Election of Secretary

- Robyn De Cicco nominated by Martina Saverino
- There being no other nominee, Robyn De Cicco was declared YCPIC Secretary

7.0 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Martina Saverino thanked the YCPIC Committee for putting their faith in her leading the YCPIC Committee and thanked the past YCPIC members.

8.0 APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL: N/A

9.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

THAT the November 25, 2024 YCPIC agenda be approved as presented.

Motion: Christina Gillison

Seconded: Marcos Paulino

MOTION CARRIED

10.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

THAT the September 23, 2024 YCPIC minutes be approved as presented.

Motion: Robyn De Cicco

Seconded: Olufisayo Bolarinwa

MOTION CARRIED

11.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: N/A

12.0 TREASURER'S REPORT

Summary as of November 24, 2024 was provided.

13.0 PRESENTATION:

a) Parent Education & Awareness Campaign

Michelle Prinzo, Mental Health Lead advised that Ministry funds were received to be used for targeted initiatives. One initiative is parent education & awareness campaign. The purpose of the presentation was to increase parent/caregiver awareness and knowledge about problematic and addictive behaviours among youth. Parents/caregivers will be provided with the skills to talk to their children about vaping and cell phone misuse using effective and evidence informed strategies to support conversations. Staff's goal is to create sessions/workshops that consider the needs of parents and students for both elementary and secondary.

Suggestions included focussing on mental health, having more than one session in all geographical areas of the Board, present case studies, have babysitting on the evenings when workshops are being held, offer an incentive to enhance engagement.

14.0 ACTION ITEM(S): NIL

15.0 DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS(S):

a) Review of YCPIC By-Laws

Associate Director Jennifer Sarna provided a high-level overview of the YCPIC By-Laws that were recently revised and reviewed by legal counsel.

b) Role of YCPIC Members

Associate Director Jennifer Sarna stated that the goal of the YCPIC Committee is to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the Board level. The YCPIC Role is to provide information, advice and communicate back to the CSC in supporting YCDSB schools. The YCPIC Committee was reminded to refer back to the YCPIC By-Laws.

c) Clarification on Platform Usage and Long-Term Goals

YCPIC Member, Jaclyn Toma, stated that there are numerous platforms for parents to use and asked if there is consideration for a common platform. Interim Director De Faveri stated that he was aware of a parent dashboard as a one stop shop to try to simplify the system used by our co-terminous Board. Discussion will be held with Information Systems Dpt to ask if there is a way to facilitate this request.

d) YCPIC Conference

YCPIC Chair, Martina Saverino asked all YCPIC members to email her one idea of a topic for a conference to be voted on at the next YCPIC meeting.

e) YCPIC Social

YCPIC Chair, Martina Saverino suggested a YCPIC Social be scheduled for the new year as it was well attended in 2023-2024 by Catholic School Council members. The Catholic School Council member would bring back information to their respective CSC and disseminate to their community.

Associate Director Jennifer Sarna will send YCPIC Executive information on *Policy 603A School Fundraising* regarding “games of chance”, as bingo or raffles require a permit or license. (Each municipality has their own fee and rules.)

16.0 ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Martina Saverino adjourned the meeting at 8:24 PM.

Motion: Genevieve Simmet

Seconded: Maria Praveen

MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING: January 20, 2025