



Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date: Monday, October 7, 2024.

Time: **6:00 p.m.**
** Committee of the Whole In Camera, if necessary, will precede or follow the Board Meeting, as appropriate.*

Location: 1st floor Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber Street, Kitchener

Attendees:	<p><u>Board of Trustees:</u> Linda Cuff (Vice-Chair), Kathy Doherty-Masters, Winston Francis, David Guerin, Renee Kraft, Marisa Phillips, Robert Sikora (Chair), Conrad Stanley, Tracey Weiler</p> <p><u>Student Representatives:</u> Allison-Hannah Berwick, Matteo Leone</p> <p><u>Senior Administration:</u> Tyrone Dowling, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonça, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Jennifer Ritsma, Annalisa Varano</p> <p><u>Special Resource:</u></p> <p><u>Recording Secretary:</u> Stephanie Medeiros</p>
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ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
1. Call to Order	Board Chair		
1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials	Board of Trustees	--	--
1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement I (we) would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather today is the land traditionally cared for by the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Neutral People. I (we) also acknowledge the enduring presence and deep traditional knowledge, laws and philosophies of the Indigenous People with whom we share this land today.	Board Chair	--	--
1.3 Approval of Agenda	Board of Trustees		Approval
1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest 1.4.1 From the current meeting 1.4.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting	Individual Trustees		
1.5 Items for Action: NA			
2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education			

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
(e.g.: operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the Board is required to do; update on the system)			
3. Consent Agenda: Board (Minutes of meetings)			
3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings 3.1.1 Committee of the Whole Minutes – Sept 9, 2024	Board of Trustees	pp. 4-6	Approval
4. Delegations			
5. Advice from the CEO			
5.1 Pastoral Plan Update	P. Mendonça	pp. 7-12	Information
6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment related to Board's Annual Agenda; ownership communication)			
6.1 Linkages Activity	Trustees	--	Discussion
6.2 Pastoral Care Activity	Trustees	--	Discussion
7. Reports from Board Committees/Task Forces			
8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)			
8.1 OCSTA/CCSTA Communications OCSTA/CCSTA Communications Link	Board of Trustees	Link	Information
8.2 WCDSB Website Updates	L. Salaymeh	--	Information
8.3 Trustee & Student Trustee Self-Evaluation	Chair	--	Discussion
8.4 Legislative changes	Chair	--	Discussion
8.5 Trustee Work Plan - October	Chair	--	Information
9. Policy Discussion (Based on Annual Plan of Board Work)			
10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance (monitoring)			
11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance (monitoring)			
12. Potential Agenda Items/Shared Concerns/Report on Trustee Inquiries			
13. Announcements			
13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct 7 – Committee of the Whole Oct 11 – PD day – Spiritual Development Oct 14 – Thanksgiving Oct 16 – CPIC Onboarding Oct 21 – Governance Committee Meeting Oct 28 – Board of Trustees 	Chair	--	Information
14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda	Trustees		

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
14.1 Board of Trustees Meeting: (October 28, 2024) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Action Achievement Plan (MAAP) • Adult Education Report • Audit Committee Annual Report • IT Summer Update • Well-Being Plan • Student Trustee Report • Chair of the Board Report • Director’s Report 	Chair	--	Information
15. Adjournment/ Confirm decisions made tonight	Director of Education		
15.1 Confirm Decisions	Recording Secretary	--	Information
16. Closing Prayer			
16.1 Closing Prayer	All		
17. Motion to Adjourn	Board of Trustees	Motion	Approval

CLOSING PRAYER

O Risen Lord, you have entrusted us with the responsibility to help form a new generation of disciples and apostles through the gift of our Catholic schools.

As disciples of Christ, may we educate and nurture hope in all learners to realize their full potential to transform God’s world.

May our Catholic schools truly be at the heart of the community, fostering success for each by providing a place for all.

May we and all whom we lead be discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community; effective communicators; reflective and creative thinkers; self-directed, responsible, life-long learners; collaborative contributors; caring family members; and responsible citizens.

Grant us the wisdom of your Spirit so that we might always be faithful to our responsibilities. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Rev. Charlie Fedy, CR and the Board of Trustees, 2010



Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, September 9, 2024, 1st floor Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber Street, Kitchener.

Trustees Present:

Linda Cuff (Vice-Chair), Kathy Doherty-Masters, Winston Francis*, David Guerin, Marisa Phillips, Robert Sikora (Chair), Conrad Stanley, Tracey Weiler

*-attended virtually via Teams

Student Trustees Present:

Allison-Hannah Berwick, Matteo Leone

Administrative Officials Present:

Tyrone Dowling, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonça, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Jennifer Ritsma, Annalisa Varano

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets: Renee Kraft

Absent:

Recorder:

Stephanie Medeiros, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 4.7 all Board decisions made by consensus are deemed the equivalent of a unanimous vote. A consensus decision is therefore deemed to be a vote of 9-0. Under Board by-law 4.11 every Trustee "shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote" and abstentions are not permitted.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

Opening prayer led by Trustee Guerin.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement

Territorial Acknowledgment declared by Chair Sikora.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Chair Sikora motioned for approval of the agenda.

2024-17 -- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Stanley:

THAT the agenda for Monday, September 9, 2024, be now approved.

--- Carried by consensus.

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.4.1 From the current meeting - NIL

1.4.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

2 Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g., day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the board is required to do)

3 Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1.1 Committee of the Whole Minutes – May 13, 2024

Chair Sikora motioned for approval of the consent agenda.

2024-18 -- It was moved by Trustee Cuff and seconded by Trustee Guerin:

THAT the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved.

--- Carried by consensus.

4 Delegations

5 Advice From the CEO

5.1 2021 Student Census

Superintendent Mendonça introduced Kelly Roberts, Research Coordinator, who presented the 2021 Student Census Report. The discussion covered Student Collections, including a summary of census participation at the school level, and detailed Phase 1: Reporting Survey Results, highlighting the survey questions and student participation by grade. Phase 2: Reporting Survey focused on outcome results, categorizing questions and emphasizing the need for internal reporting to distinguish between disparity and disproportionality.

Superintendent Mendonça outlined the next steps, which include hosting Town Hall sessions and planning for the launch of student census number two in the spring of 2025. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.2 2025 MYSP Consultation

Director Dowling presented on the 2025 MYSP Consultation. The WCDSB plans to engage in consultations with various individuals and groups to gather information for the purpose of developing the next iteration of the MYSP. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.3 MYSPS Dashboard Update

Director Dowling provided an update on the Multi-Year Strategic Plan Dashboard. The presentation included a review of the accountability framework and monthly updates on key indicators to track the implementation of the MYSP. Additionally, the strategies inventory and the pillars of the MYSP were examined, along with the collection cycles for the MYSP. Trustees posed clarifying questions.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6.1 Linkages Activity

Trustee Kraft provided an agenda of discussion topics for the Linkages Committee. Chair Sikora provided an update on the recent work of the Linkages Committee.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity

Trustee Guerin presented an update on the Pastoral Care Activity for September, highlighting discussions on the annual report aimed at enhancing visibility and engagement with the Board. The conversation also included plans to invite clergy and students to take part in the opening prayers at Board meetings.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8.1 OCSTA/CCSTA Communications

Chair Sikora briefly discussed OCSTA/CCSTA Communications.

8.2 Bylaw review

Vice-Chair Cuff reviewed the major changes in the bylaws and welcomed clarification and questions from Trustees. Trustees posed questions.

8.3 II 016 Trustee Meeting Attendance – Electronic & In Person

Vice-Chair Cuff reviewed that this policy is now lifted from the bylaw and stands as a policy on its own. Director Dowling reviewed changes on the policy.

8.4 Trustee Work Plan – September review

Chair Sikora reviewed items for review for the month of September in the Trustee Work Plan.

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events

Trustees discussed upcoming events.

14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items

Trustees discussed upcoming items on the next agenda.

15. Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight. Closing Prayer

15.1 Confirm Decisions

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

16. Closing Prayer

17. Motion to Adjourn

**2024-19 -- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Stanley:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:00 p.m.**

Chair of the Board

Secretary



Date: October 7, 2024
To: Board of Trustees
From: Director of Education
Subject: Pastoral Plan Update

Type of Report:

- Decision-Making
- Monitoring
- Incidental Information concerning day-to-day operations

Type of Information:

- Information for Board of Trustees Decision-Making
- Monitoring Information of Board Policy **XX XXX**
- Information only of day-to-day operational matters delegated to the CEO

Origin: (cite Education Act and/or Board Policy or other legislation)

Board Governance Policy I:001 Ends
 Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE, 2011): [Institute for Catholic Education]

Policy Statement and/or Education Act/other Legislation citation:

Administrative Policy (APA001): Elementary Admissions
 Administrative Policy (APA002): Secondary Admissions

Alignment to the MYSP:

Awaken to Belong

- Every student can see themselves reflected in their learning.
- Staff experiences a positive, healthy, and inclusive workplace.
- Are aware of and/or use the available resources to assist in navigation of the school system.

Ignite to Believe

- Every student experiences the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGEs) and the WCDSB pastoral plan within their learning environments.
- Staff are welcomed and invited to continue to be a partner in their adult faith formation journey.
- The relationship between home, parish and school is strengthened.

Strengthen to Become

- Every student reaches their full potential.
- Staff see their impact on student achievement.
- Are engaged as active partners in our students' Catholic education journey.



Background/Comments:

Catholic schools exist to support the evangelizing mission of the Church. Catholic parents send their children to Catholic schools with certain expectations. The overriding expectation is that their child will experience education permeated with religious values, religious instruction and be invited to participate in the sacramental life of the church. They also expect that Catholic values will be held, modeled, expressed and taught within the Catholic educational community. Our three-year pastoral plan supports and animates the faith life of students and staff in the WCDSB.

Additionally, our Multi-Year Strategic Plan indicates that nurturing our Catholic community will be a priority area with opportunities to bear witness to our faith through joyful discipleship and our relationships with and in Christ as an essential strategic direction. To this end, we endeavor to provide opportunities to live out and inform our faith through implementation of our Pastoral Plan, which is informed by the Ontario Bishops’ pastoral letter, *Renewing the Promise*.

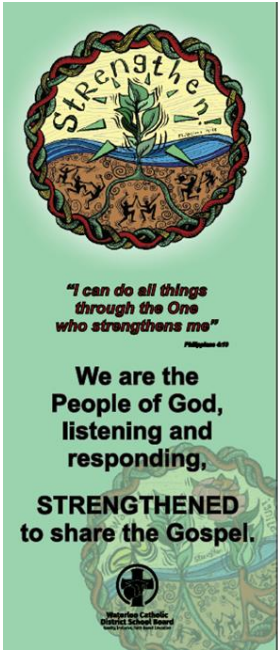


Last year we transitioned to *STRENGTHEN*, the second year of our three-year Pastoral Plan. Reminded that **“We are the People of God, listening and responding, STRENGTHENED to share the Gospel!”** we responded to the ‘signs of our time’ to bring about a material and spiritual **Strengthening** in our communities.

With great hope and conviction, we were reminded in Paul’s Letter to the Phillipians, that we can participate as joyful disciples, **“I can do all things through the One who strengthens me”**

During our 2023 **Spiritual Development Day**, we celebrated and reflected upon our Pastoral Year theme, *STRENGTHEN*





In the morning staff gathered in their Family of Schools communities to listen to our keynote speakers featuring talks from Dr Ansel Augustine, Peter Sweeney, Sister Barbra Paleczny, Michael and Christine Way Skinner and Stephen Jackson, all individuals who, have made the marginalized a priority. Their heartfelt words Strengthened us to Listen and Respond to the needs of our world. After our Keynote, the Eucharist was celebrated with priests from our Deanery present to break bread with staff. The **afternoon** consisted of an engaging school activity which was built around the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.



Dr. Ansel Augustine also took time the following day to speak to invited students from our high schools. His inspirational talk focused on faith through an equity lens. He provided soul work breakout sessions and opportunities for one-on-one conversations with our students.

Inspired by our Spiritual Development Day – the work of STRENGTHEN began in earnest. Indigenous David A. Robertson, two-time Governor General's Literary Award winner came to speak to our students about resilience. He visited various schools during the day on April 19th and offered a workshop at St. David C.S.S. later that evening.



WCDSB Proudly Presents...

An Evening with Indigenous Author

David Robertson

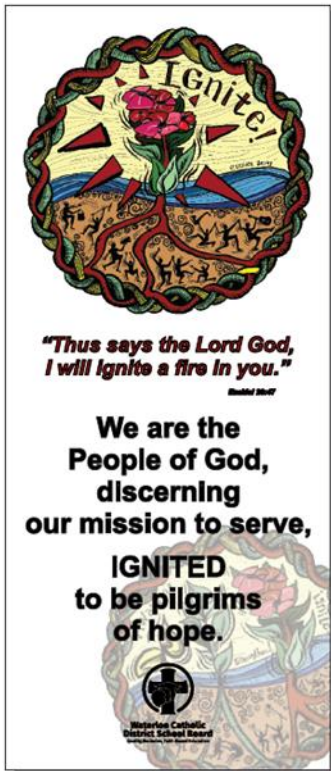


Last year we STRENGTHENED School Pastoral Teams by 'calling them forward' to support their formation and critical work of animating our faith in their schools. We were excited to offer a Theology on Tap for Pastoral Team members at several breweries in the KW region. We started in October at Four Fathers Brewing Company with the author of The Peace Promise, John Kuypers. In February we moved to Innocente Brewing Company to hear Bruce Rodrigues, former WCDSB



Teacher, Administrator and Superintendent, Director of TCDSB, EQAO CEO and Deputy Minister of Education. We ended our series at Waterloo Brewery Tap house with author Michael Higgins. We are looking forward to continuing the series in this year of IGNITE.





For the 2024-2024 school year, our Pastoral Plan’s focus will be the Year 3 theme, IGNITE. Anchored in the words of the Prophet Ezekial,: “Thus says the Lord God, I will ignite a fire in you.” (Ezekiel 20:47) we are ignited to discern how to be Pilgrims of Hope.

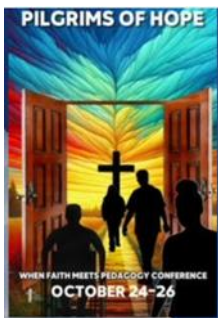
Catholics find their strength in the sacramental life of the Church: through the Eucharist, through communal and personal prayer, through deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ. In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year “Pilgrims of Hope”, 2024 has been designated a year of Prayer by Pope Francis. The Year of Prayer, the Holy Father explained, is dedicated “to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world.”



Our Spiritual Development Day on Friday October 11, 2024, will continue with the theme of **Ignite** and follow the guidelines for Pope Francis’ Year in Prayer. We will start the day with a full system gathering at the Kitchener Auditorium. We will start the day as community



with a Celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Lobsinger presiding. This will be followed by a talk by Father Tony Ricard from the Archdiocese of New Orleans. His talk is entitled “**The Igniting Fire of God’s Beloved.**” The afternoon session will be site based focusing on types of prayer. Schools are provided with four types of prayer, from which they will choose three to learn more about.



In late October, Catholic educators from across the province will once again gather in Toronto for the **When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference**. This year’s theme is **Pilgrims of Hope**. To be pilgrims represents our journey in this life as we connect to our faith and relationship with Christ. We know that staff will be **Ignited** and inspired by the words and example of Fr. Richard Leo who will be speaking about **Why God? And Our Mission with Christ?**

Some other Highlights of **IGNITE activities will include the following:**

Ignite activities intentionally connected to our Catholic Education Week theme, Pilgrims of Hope.

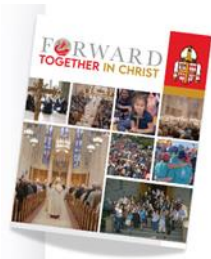


The five sub themes for Catholic Education week explore ways to live out Pope Francis' call for each one of us to be Pilgrims of Hope...

- by honouring human dignity / honorent la dignité humaine (Monday)
- by caring for creation / prennent soin de la création (Tuesday)
- by responding to the poverties in our world / luttent contre les pauvretés (Wednesday)
- by serving in solidarity / servant en solidarité (Thursday)
- by living as peacemakers / vivent en artisans de paix (Friday)

We will continue to Ignite our staff with more Theology on Tap sessions. Dates and speakers are still to be determined.

We will continue to work with the Development and Peace organization. Emily Bowman-Lukasik, our youth program officer at Development and Peace, will continue to provide guidance for our schools.



We will be working with Diocese of Hamilton on a WCDSB/Parish collaboration project. This follows the ideas put forward in the Diocese document Forward Together in Christ. Linda Staudt, former Director of Education for London Catholic DSB, has developed a model for "Conversations in the Spirit", rooted in synodal listening, to breathe new life into relationships between parishes and schools. WCDSB will be a part of this conversation this year.

Summary:

Reminded that **"We are the People of God, discerning our mission to serve, IGNITED to be pilgrims of hope,"** – we look to respond to needs of our present time and situation to continue to Ignite our work within our communities. As we end our three-year Pastoral Plan with **IGNITE**, we keep our efforts this year firmly rooted in the fertile soil of our Faith as we are reminded that we are **Pilgrims of Hope**. With great hope and conviction, we are reminded in Philippians 4:13, that despite all obstacles, **"I can do all things through the One who strengthens me."**



*"Thus says the Lord God,
I will ignite a fire in you."
Ezekiel 20:47*

We are the People of God,
discerning our mission to serve,
ignited to be pilgrims of Hope.



Recommendation:

This report is for the information of the Board.

Prepared/Reviewed By: Tyrone Dowling
Director of Education

Paul Mendonca
Superintendent of Education

Lisa Denomme
Acting Religion and Family Life Consultant

*4.2 DIRECTOR Monitoring Reports: Where the Board receives from the CEO a monitoring report that flows from a responsibility delegated to the Director under Board Policy – except where approval is required by the Board on a matter delegated by policy to the Board – the minutes of the Meeting at which the Report is received shall expressly provide that the Board has received and approved of the Report as an action consistent with the authority delegated to the CEO, subject in all instances to what otherwise actually occurred.

