

Celebration of the Eucharist

Celebrant: Monsignor Joseph Shiels

St. John XXIII Chapel, Catholic Education Centre

Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.

Board Room, Catholic Education Centre

A Call to Order by the Secretary of the Board—M. Mazzorato

At 7:00 p.m. the Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, M. Mazzorato, called the meeting to order and confirmed all elected trustees and students were in attendance.

B Opening Prayer – Monsignor J. Sheils

Monsignor J. Sheils led the Opening Prayer.

C Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory—M. Mazzorato

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, M. Mazzorato, acknowledged the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit and presented E. Robinson tobacco as an offering of respect. E. Robinson shared the Anishinaabe Opening and Welcome.

D Approval of Agenda—M. Mazzorato

Motion 001 (16-12-06) by T. Thomas

Seconded by L. del Rosario

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

E Director's Address to the Board—M. Mazzorato

Director M. Mazzorato presented the Director's annual year-end address to the Board.

Monsignor Sheils, trustees, staff and guests. Similar to the chair's address to the board at the November board meeting, it is a Dufferin-Peel tradition that the Director address the board at the Organizational meeting and it is indeed a privilege to deliver my first as your director of education.

We are now in the second week of Advent where we anticipate with joy and hope the coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. During this time of waiting, Pope Francis invites us to reflect and be mindful that, "we are called to enlarge the horizons of our hearts, to be surprised by the life that is presented each day with its newness."

Traditionally, the Director's address has been an account of the many accomplishments, significant events and activities that have occurred over the past year. We do have a mechanism to share the past year's accomplishments in the form of two upcoming reports. The first, the Director's Annual Report on Meeting the Goals of our Strategic System Plan, which is a Ministry

requirement, will be presented at the December Regular Board meeting; and the second; The Director's Annual Report to the Community, will be presented at the January Regular Board meeting.

Over the past year, this board of trustees have reviewed upwards of 68 policies. One of the recent changes is the inclusion in all meetings of the Acknowledgement of Sacred Lands, which is a powerful message of relationship and respect.

Our renewed Math strategy articulates a comprehensive approach that refocuses an emphasis on foundational mathematics skills, while at the same time facilitating more complex math thinking and proofing. We are inspired by mathematicians such as Shiyali Ramanujan. This brilliant mathematician recognized that all his understandings of the world, and how it functions is an expression of faith. To quote him, "An equation has no meaning for me unless it expresses a thought of GOD". And as Catholic educators, this is the gift we would like all our students to have. The ability to find God in the everyday and in others, is a true expression of dignity, love, and hospitality.

And while policy development and math renewal are just a couple of areas worthy of mention, I want to do things a bit differently this evening. Tonight, my address will carry two themes: the importance of telling our story and the importance of service. Both concepts are critical components of our collective work on behalf of children and families. Both concepts are also rooted in Holy Scripture, sacred tradition and the values passed down to us through generations as followers of Jesus.

We all love stories. Data can persuade people, but it doesn't necessarily inspire them to act; to do that, you need to wrap your vision in a story that fires the imagination, stirs the soul, inspires us to greatness and gives meaning to our work. Stories bring us to places we might not otherwise visit, they let us explore the experiences of others, and at the same time give us a better understanding of our collective impact toward achieving our mission. While storytelling may seem like an old-fashioned tool, that's exactly what makes it so powerful. The First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities have an emphasis on using narratives and stories to pass on their traditions and to teach about their way of life. In this year of "Walking Forward Together" we can learn much from this Indigenous perspective. Life happens in the narratives we share with one another. A story can go where quantitative analysis is denied ... to our hearts.

Dufferin-Peel is a collection of stories that are in their totality a continuation of the stories in the bible. The scriptures are stories of everyday people who had extraordinary encounters with God. The same holds true for the thousands of narratives, the graces and God moments, lived out and created every day in our schools and other facilities which continue the story that began over two thousand years ago in the scriptures. The narratives of the everyday in the DP community, connect us to Jesus's message and mission and a deeper understanding of the impact we are having on children and families. What better way to understand the impact of our work than through the personal narratives of all who comprise this great DP community?

With humility, I believe we are good. In fact, we are really good. Our students do extremely well by every measure. They routinely match or outperform the provincial average year in and year out. Our graduation rates are among the highest in the entire province. Our collective contribution to stewardship and sustainable practices and involvement in works of charity and mercy are authentic expressions of who we are. But, it's not enough that we simply announce

these as fact. Let's use narratives to help frame and communicate the extraordinary education we offer.

It's very powerful when we become part of a student's personal narrative that provides an account of how he/she overcame obstacles and with the help of dedicated teachers, administrators, support staff and a pedagogical approach that personalized a program to build on strengths and differing abilities, experienced success.

It's powerful when we see a video clip of elementary students working on a coding project.... When we hear a student telling a story of their personal redemption....When we read about our distinguished alumni telling how their Dufferin-Peel Catholic education and how their teachers laid the foundation for their successful career.

The power of Student Voice, whether depicted in anti-bullying videos and posters submitted through the What if Everyone did Something Against Bullying? Competition, or the recent Faith in Our Future multimedia work submitted by Dufferin-Peel students to OCSTA. Our Pastor's remarks are superb narratives. The videos have invited us to know and love our pastors, to be inspired by their compassion, deep faith and desire to nurture the faith of our community.

All these are stories that inspire others and confirm what we have been saying for years....A Dufferin-Peel Catholic education is an awesome thing. An invaluable gift, that impacts lives and lays the foundation for a successful future.

This upcoming year we will also be more mindful of hospitality and service. Our Catholic response to the historical event of Jesus Christ is to serve one another. The simple human gestures of kindness, inclusion, compassion, empathy and hospitality tell so much about what the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board stands for.

Blessed Mother Teresa said, "Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile."

Excellent service and hospitality builds trust and confidence. Our parents, students and other stakeholders have never been more powerful than today, with their ability to offer opinions that can reach anyone on the planet. Great service encourages advocacy and evangelism which act as turbo boosters on social networks and other non-traditional channels.

As we continue on our Advent journey towards Christmas, I want to take a moment to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the board of trustees and to our student trustees, for your support and leadership. I truly believe we are one of the leading boards in this province and this is in no small part due to the dedication, commitment, passion and sense of duty that you bring to the table, both individually and collectively. Your clarity of purpose articulated through the strategic system direction, commitment and steadfast advocacy on behalf of the communities you represent and ability to come together toward protecting and enhancing the distinctiveness of Catholic education is demonstrated over and over again. This collective approach is fundamental to our notion as a Catholic community.

To His Excellency Bishop Boissonneau, His Eminence Cardinal Collins and our pastoral teams who provide guidance and support in fostering the unity of Catholic faith; thank you for working in harmony and collaboratively with us as we strive for shared evangelization and shared ministry.

To my colleagues on Executive Council, Sheila McWatters and John Hrajnik, thank you for your support and leadership. To the senior management team, school and board administrators, faculty and support staff, unions and associations,each and every member of the Dufferin-Peel community who commit each day to creating the conditions for our students to receive the best Catholic education we can provide, I say thanks.

You cannot produce and sustain a vital Catholic education system such as the one we enjoy here in DP without a dedicated, highly competent community of individuals working together for the continuous betterment of the programs and services on behalf of students. DP Catholic educators, administrators and support staff are a great gift to our children and families. And finally, to our parents and guardians for entrusting your children's faith and education to us.

It is my honour and privilege to provide leadership to our collective work. May our Dufferin-Peel community continue to cherish the gift of Faith, the blessing of Hope, and the Peace of His love. Thank you.

M. Mazzorato
Director of Education

Motion 002 (16-12-06) by M. Pascucci

Seconded by A. Abbruscato

THAT THE DIRECTOR'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD BE RECEIVED AND READ INTO THE MINUTES.

CARRIED

F Election of Chair of the Board In Accordance with By-Law

Elections were conducted by secret ballot in accordance with the Board's Procedural By-Law.

Associate Director of Corporate Services, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, J. Hrajnik, Associate Director of Instructional Services, S. McWatters and Superintendent of Learning Technologies and Chief Information Officer R. Eberhardt were appointed scrutineers.

Nominations for Chair of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District Board of Trustees were opened by Secretary to the Board, M. Mazzorato.

Trustee M. Pascucci was nominated by Trustee S. Xaviour. Trustee M. Pascucci was asked by the Secretary of the Board, M. Mazzorato if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee M. Pascucci accepted the nomination.

Trustee E. O'Toole was nominated by Trustee F. Di Cosola. Trustee E. O'Toole was asked by the Secretary of the Board, M. Mazzorato if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee E. O'Toole accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, the Secretary of the Board, M. Mazzorato, requested further

nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed. The nominees briefly addressed the assembly.

Ballots were counted and Trustee M. Pascucci was elected by a clear majority on the first ballot. Chair M. Pascucci assumed the chair in order to conduct the remainder of the proceedings.

Motion 003 (16-12-06) by B. Iannicca

Seconded by A. Abbruscato

THAT THE BALLOTS BE DESTROYED.

CARRIED

G Election of Vice-Chair of the Board In Accordance with By-Law

Elections were conducted in accordance with the Board's Procedural By-Law. Chair M. Pascucci called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.

Trustee S. Hobin was nominated by Trustee A. Abbruscato. Trustee S. Hobin was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee S. Hobin accepted the nomination.

Trustee A. da Silva was nominated by Trustee S. Xaviour. Trustee A. da Silva was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee A. da Silva accepted the nomination.

Trustee T. Thomas was nominated by Trustee D. D'Souza. Trustee T. Thomas was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee T. Thomas accepted the nomination.

Motion 004 (16-12-06) by D. D'Souza

Seconded by F. Di Cosola

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

The nominees briefly addressed the assembly.

Associate Director of Corporate Services, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, J. Hrajnik, Associate Director of Instructional Services, S. McWatters and Superintendent of Learning Technologies and Chief Information Officer R. Eberhardt were appointed scrutineers.

Ballots were counted and Trustee S. Hobin was elected by a clear majority on the first ballot.

Vice-Chair S. Hobin took the seat next to the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion 005 (16-12-06) by F. Di Cosola

Seconded by S. Xaviour

THAT THE BALLOTS BE DESTROYED.

CARRIED

H Remarks from the Vice-Chair of the Board

Vice-Chair S. Hobin thanked her fellow trustees for their confidence and support and indicated her willingness and determination to continue to work hard for the benefit of all in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.

I Remarks from the Chair of the Board

Chair M. Pascucci thanked his fellow trustees for their confidence in him as chair over the past year and outlined some of the activities he undertook on behalf of the board during that time. He also noted the importance of the work of all trustees as advocates for, and stewards of, Catholic education. Chair M. Pascucci further noted the challenges ahead and vowed to continue to work hard to maintain Dufferin-Peel's standing as one of the leading Catholic school boards in Ontario.

J Election of Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee

Nominations for Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee were opened by Chair M. Pascucci.

Trustee F. Di Cosola was nominated by Trustee S. Hobin. Trustee Di Cosola was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee F. Di Cosola accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 006 (16-12-06) by B. Iannicca

Seconded by L. del Rosario

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee F. Di Cosola was acclaimed Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

K Election of Vice-Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee

Chair M. Pascucci called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

Trustee L. del Rosario was nominated by Trustee S. Hobin. Trustee L. del Rosario was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee L. del Rosario respectfully declined the nomination.

Trustee S. Xaviour was nominated by Trustee F. Di Cosola. Trustee S. Xaviour was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee S. Xaviour accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 007 (16-12-06) by F. Di Cosola

Seconded by E. O'Toole

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee S. Xaviour was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

L Election of Chair of the Faith and Program Committee

Nominations for Chair of the Faith and Program Committee were opened by Chair M. Pascucci.

Trustee L. del Rosario was nominated by Trustee A. Abbruscato. Trustee L. del Rosario was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee L. del Rosario accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 008 (16-12-06) by D. D'Souza

Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee L. del Rosario was acclaimed Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

M Election of Vice-Chair of the Faith and Program Committee

Chair M. Pascucci called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

Trustee D. D'Souza was nominated by Trustee T. Thomas. Trustee D. D'Souza was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee D. D'Souza respectfully declined the nomination.

Trustee A. Abbruscato was nominated by Trustee S. Xaviour. Trustee A. Abbruscato was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee A. Abbruscato respectfully declined the nomination.

Trustee A. da Silva was nominated by Trustee F. Di Cosola. Trustee A. da Silva was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee A. da Silva accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 009 (16-12-06) by T. Thomas

Seconded by D. D'Souza

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee A. da Silva was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

N Election of Chair of the Contract Negotiations Committee

All Trustees without a declared interest were eligible for nomination to the Contract Negotiations Committee. Nominations for Chair of the Contract Negotiations Committee were opened by Chair M. Pascucci.

Trustee E. O’Toole was nominated by Trustee L. del Rosario. Trustee E. O’Toole was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee E. O’Toole accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci requested further nominations three times.

Motion 010 (16-12-06) by F. Di Cosola

Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee E. O’Toole was acclaimed Chair of the Contract and Negotiations Committee.

O Election of Vice-Chair of the Contract and Negotiations Committee

Chair M. Pascucci called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Contract and Negotiations Committee.

Trustee D. D’Souza was nominated by Trustee T. Thomas. Trustee D. D’Souza was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee D. D’Souza accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 011 (16-12-06) by L. del Rosario

Seconded by F. Di Cosola

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee D. D’Souza was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Contract and Negotiations Committee.

P Election of Chair of the Board By-Law/Policy Review Committee

Nominations for Chair of the Board By-Law/Policy Review Committee were opened by Chair M. Pascucci.

Trustee A. Abbruscato was nominated by Trustee S. Hobin. Trustee A. Abbruscato was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee A. Abbruscato accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 012 (16-12-06) by B. Iannicca

Seconded by L. del Rosario

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee A. Abbruscato was acclaimed Chair of the Board By-Law/Policy Review Committee.

Q Election of Vice-Chair of the Board By-Law/Policy Review Committee

Chair M. Pascucci called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board By-Law/Policy Review Committee.

Trustee B. Iannicca was nominated by Trustee S. Hobin. Trustee B. Iannicca was asked by Chair M. Pascucci if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee B. Iannicca accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair M. Pascucci, requested further nominations three times.

Motion 013 (16-12-06) by D. D'Souza

Seconded by F. Di Cosola

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

Trustee B. Iannicca was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Board By-Law/Policy Review Committee.

R Closing Remarks from the Chair of the Board

M. Pascucci, Chair of the Board, recognized the support of trustees, stakeholders, unions, associations, teachers, caretakers, and support staff, all who have involvement in the lives of our 80,000 students.

He thanked trustees for their countless hours, dedication and hard work. Thank you for supporting Catholic education.

Chair M. Pascucci welcomed all to a reception.

S Adjournment

Motion 014 (16-12-06) by A. Abbruscato

Seconded by S. Xaviour

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 7:49 p.m.

CARRIED