



Celebration of the Eucharist
Celebrant: Father Jim Roth
CEC Chapel

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Board
Tuesday, December 2, 2014 - 7:15 p.m.
Board Room, Catholic Education Centre

A Opening Prayer and Call to Order by the Secretary of the Board—J. B. Kostoff

Director of Education and Secretary to the Board, J. B. Kostoff, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Director Kostoff welcomed and invited His Excellency, John Boissonneau, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto, to provide a blessing of the new Board.

Director Kostoff noted that Bishop Boissonneau was celebrating 40 years in the priesthood and presented His Excellency with a gift on behalf of the Board.

B Approval of Agenda—J. B. Kostoff

Motion 001 (14-12-02) by S. Hobin

Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

C Welcoming of Guests—J. B. Kostoff

Director J.B. Kostoff, welcomed guests and outlined the procedure of the Inaugural Meeting.

Director J.B. Kostoff extended an invitation, on behalf of the Trustees, to attend a social that will follow the meeting.

D Presentation of the Director's Report—J. B. Kostoff

Director J.B. Kostoff presented the Director's annual address to the Board.

Each year at this time the director is asked to give, under the Education Act, a report to the community in terms of the year's perspective.

This past year, our Board has continued on the trajectory of success, not simply by our acknowledgement or declaration but, additionally, by others reflecting on our practices and our results. You can't build a reputation on the things you are going to do. Our reputation has been built on what we have done.

Whether you look at our student achievement and well-being that demonstrates success of all students, whether it be through increased graduation rates, or the increasing success of students with identified needs as well as those students who are new to this country, all are meeting with greater success than in the past. In virtually all of our areas of EQAO assessment, we have met or exceeded both the provincial standards and the provincial averages with increased competencies. If you look at our graduation rate, the same is true. If you look at the number of SHSMs that we have been able to bring into this Board, the largest number in the province, this is further indication of the success that our students are achieving.

If you look to our capital plan, the investments and retrofitting of our schools, the additions and renovations to our schools, the facilitating of full-day learning programs that were completed on schedule and on budget, this makes us unique. These successes were the result of trustees allocating funds and employees working against very challenging odds to complete these projects. Today, in all of our schools full-day kindergarten programs are up and running, many in refurbished classes. In addition, our staff and maintenance have worked tirelessly this past year to address many emergencies, so that no instructional time would be lost for our students.

This past year, our Board invested in technology and textbooks despite funding reductions at the provincial level. These investments resulted in the "WiFi-ing" of our schools, surveying to determine strategic use of new technology, such as the use of tablets and a new policy coming to the Board regarding the use of student and teacher personal devices in our classrooms and schools. We have moved deliberately with this policy only after ensuring equity for those who will not have this technology in their home. We continue to explore new approaches in the use of technology, which can be supported by pedagogy that will result in greater support for student achievement and well-being.

Our strategic review, which led to the development of our new Strategic System Plan, demonstrated great support from our parent community for the cleanliness of our schools, the safety of our schools, student achievement and well-being, the Catholic nature of our schools and the support of the triad of family, school and parish. From this strong support, trustees developed our new strategic plan that was distributed to the community early in the fall. It outlines the direction that this Board will seek to carry out during the next four years. Catholicity, Catholic learning, Catholic community engagement, parish-home-school relationships, stewardship of our physical environment, technology and the sacredness of our environment are all aspects of our newly-revised strategic plan.

This strategic plan will result in a focusing of our budget, our policies and procedures in an effort to ensure that, in four years' time, we will meet the same strong support from our community that we have in the past with our strategic plan.

Trustees are challenged at each meeting to develop policies and to fund very complex community needs in the region of Dufferin-Peel. We have often acknowledged that there is not enough money for the Board to do all that it would like to do for our students and staff. In these

increasingly difficult financial times, we will be tested to do the best we can recognizing that we have two audiences to meet: those with children in our system and the vast majority of Catholic supporters that have no children in our system but look to us to provide good, financial stewardship and governance, while supporting the Catholic nature of our schools.

Trustees in the last Board worked well to bring us to this point. While a larger community may question the value of trustees and boards of education, our Strategic Review results indicate a high support for both and this is a sacred trust I am sure the current trustees will wish to maintain.

In the next few weeks, I will present a detailed system review, as required under the Education Act, and a system direction that will operate as a strategic plan and set goals for the first two years.

I would like to thank our employees for their constant diligence and work ethic to ensure that Catholic education remains vibrant and engaging in our system. We are blessed to have such committed professionals at all levels of the organization. In a special way, I wish to acknowledge, this evening, the Superintendents and my Associate Directors. It is because of our employees and the system that we are able to achieve, inspire and create schools of difference and to all of them, regardless of what position they play in our Board, I wish to express my gratitude.

To the newly-elected trustees, you are joining a group of long-serving trustees in Dufferin-Peel, who have achieved much for our students and the Catholic community. I am sure you will continue to work as a team in this area. Finally, to our parents and supporters that grow each year in our region, we thank you for your support and belief in Catholic education and for recognizing that we are limited at times to do all that we would like to do on your behalf.

I would like to end with a story that Michael J. Fox tells in his autobiography. Fox tells of a time when his children were young and they embarked on a cross-country automobile trip. After the fifth day of driving and enduring countless inquiries of "Are we there, yet?" Fox stopped the car and let the children out to explore. They were in the middle of the desert. It was about 110 degrees. The kids kicked over some rocks, saw a snake, some cactus and lots of dry, dusty sand. After some time, Fox asked, "Do you think we are there yet?" The kids unanimously agreed that they were not there yet.

We, too, are not there yet, but if we continue to work together, keep faithful to our mission as a Catholic school board, support the triad of parish, home and school, maintain good stewardship of our resources and practice good governance, then we will, in four years, again see strong support from our community partners. As always, it is my pleasure and honour to serve this Board and Catholic education in Dufferin-Peel. Thank you and we will now move to the next item on the agenda.

Motion 002 (14-12-02) by M. Pascucci

Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE YEAR END REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND SECRETARY TO THE BOARD BE RECEIVED AND READ INTO THE MINUTES.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E Returns of Election – J. B. Kostoff

Returns of the municipal election for Catholic school trustees of October 27, 2014 were read and recorded as follows:

Brampton:

Wards 1, 3 & 4	Anna Maria da Silva
Wards 2, 5 & 6	Darryl Brian D’Souza
Wards 7, 8, 9, 10	Shawn Xaviour

Caledon/Dufferin:

Frank Di Cosola

City of Mississauga:

Wards 1 and 3	Mario Pascucci
Wards 2 and 8	Sharon Hobin
Ward 4	Anna Abbruscato
Ward 5	Thomas Thomas
Ward 6 and 11	Luz del Rosario
Ward 7	Bruno Iannicca
Ward 9 and 10	Esther O’Toole

F Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance from the Education Act and Oath for Catholic Trustees in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

Following the reading of the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance from the Education Act and the Oath for Catholic Trustees in Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and signing by trustees, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board for 2015-2018 was declared legally constituted.

G Election of Chair of the Board In Accordance with Procedural Bylaw

Elections were conducted by secret ballot in accordance with the Board’s Procedural Bylaw.

Associate Director Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, J. Hrajnik, Associate Director of Instructional Services, S. McWatters and Family of School Superintendent, M. Vecchiarino were appointed scrutineers.

Nominations for Chair of the Board were opened by Secretary to the Board, J. B. Kostoff.

Trustee S. Hobin was nominated by Trustee A. Abbruscato.

Trustee S. Hobin was asked by the Secretary of the Board, J.B. Kostoff if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee Hobin respectfully declined the nomination.

Trustee M. Pascucci was nominated by Trustee T. Thomas.

Trustee M. Pascucci was asked by the Secretary of the Board, J.B. Kostoff if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee Pascucci accepted the nomination.

Trustee E. O’Toole was nominated by Trustee S. Hobin.

Trustee E. O'Toole was asked by the Secretary of the Board, J.B. Kostoff if she wished to allow her name to stand in nomination. Trustee O'Toole accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, the Secretary of the Board, J. B. Kostoff, requested further nominations. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

Motion 003 (14-12-02) by A. Abbruscato

Seconded by B. Iannicca

THAT THE BALLOTS BE DESTROYED.

CARRIED

The nominees briefly addressed the assembly.

Ballots were counted and Trustee M. Pascucci was elected by a majority on the first ballot.

Chair M. Pascucci assumed the chair in order to conduct the remainder of the proceedings. The Chair thanked Trustees for their support and confidence.

Motion 004 (14-12-02) by T. Thomas

Seconded by L. del Rosario

THAT THE BALLOTS BE DESTROYED.

CARRIED

H Election of Vice-Chair of the Board In Accordance with Bylaw

Elections were conducted by secret ballot in accordance with the Board's Procedural Bylaw.

Chair M. Pascucci called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board.

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

Trustee T. Thomas was nominated by Trustee D. D'Souza. Trustee T. Thomas was asked by the Secretary of the Board, J.B. Kostoff if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee Thomas accepted the nomination.

Trustee A. Abbruscato nominated F. Di Cosola. Trustee F. Di Cosola was asked by the Secretary of the Board, J.B. Kostoff if he wished to allow his name to stand in nomination. Trustee Di Cosola accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, the Chair requested further nominations. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

Motion 005 (14-12-02) by S. Hobin

Seconded by A. Abbruscato

THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.

CARRIED

The nominees briefly addressed the assembly.

The rules around the ballots and counting was clarified by the Secretary of the Board, J.B. Kostoff.

Chair Pascucci announced that a clear majority was not received and that the names of the trustees with the greater number of votes, Trustee T. Thomas and Trustee F. Di Cosola, were put forward for the next vote.

Ballots were counted and Trustee Di Cosola was elected on the second ballot.

Vice-Chair F. Di Cosola took the seat next to the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Vice-Chair Di Cosola thanked his fellow trustees for their support and the opportunity to serve the Board in this new capacity.

Motion 006 (14-12-02) by S. Xaviour

Seconded by S. Hobin

THAT THE BALLOTS BE DESTROYED.

CARRIED

I Appointment of Auditors—J. B. Kostoff

Motion 007 (14-12-02) by L. del Rosario

Seconded by D. D’Souza

THAT THE REPORT ENTITLED “APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS”, DATED DECEMBER 2, 2014, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

Motion 008 (14-12-02) by E. O’Toole

Seconded by L. del Rosario

THAT THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD APPOINT DELOITTE LLP, CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS AS THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS OF THE BOARD FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 AT A FEE OF \$84,300 (EXCLUDING TAXES) AS RECOMMENDED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AT ITS IN-CAMERA MEETING OF NOVEMBER 11, 2014.

CARRIED

J Remarks from the Vice-Chair of the Board – F. Di Cosola

Good evening, your Excellency, fellow trustees, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to thank this Board of Trustees for electing me as Vice-Chair. It will be a privilege to serve as Vice-Chair with Chair Mario Pascucci. I thank you all for your support.

L Remarks from the Chair of the Board – M. Pascucci

Good evening, your Excellency, fellow trustees, ladies and gentlemen.
On behalf of myself and my family thank you for allowing me to this again. It is a daunting task at times. As Chair, I am going to try to do the best I can. Thank you to my colleagues for allowing me the privilege of serving the Board, and to Director Kostoff and General Manager B. Campbell for their ongoing support. I will again commit to you that I will be an ambassador for Catholic education and will do my best to represent this Board.

L Adjournment

Motion 009 (14-12-02) by D. D'Souza

Seconded by S. Xaviour

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED 8:15 p.m.

CARRIED