



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MINUTES

CATHOLIC FAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, April 28, 2014 – 5:00 p.m.

Main Boardroom – Catholic Education Centre

Chair: Ann Sutton, Superintendent of Education

Trustee: Linda Ward

Present: Terri Sinasac – Consultant, Catholic Curriculum, Elementary
Adrien Gagnier – Vice Principal, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Christine Lambert –Principal, Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton
Joan Martell – Teacher & Faith Ambassador, Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton
Kerry Matthyssen – Principal, Georges P. Vanier Catholic School
Margaret Palmer-McCann – Chaplain, Ursuline College Chatham
Marcia Vermey – French Immersion Parent, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Cindy Waddick – Elementary Chaplaincy Leader
Richard Whitney – Chaplain, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Rob Cicchelli– Principal, St. Patrick’s Catholic Secondary School
Kim Gaiswinkler – Teacher & Faith Ambassador, St. Ursula Catholic School
Fr. Jim Higgins – Episcopal Vicar, Sarnia Deanery
Gloria Knoll – Teacher, Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton

Regrets: Lauri Butzer – French Immersion Parent, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Dino Petrucci– Teacher, St. Patrick’s Catholic Secondary School
Lorri Moynihan – Educational Assistant, Christ the King Catholic School
Linda Ward – Trustee

Guest: Dan Parr – Director
Ray Power – Principal, Ursuline College Chatham

Recording Secretary: Silvia Leggiero

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ann Sutton, chair of the meeting, welcomed and thanked those in attendance then called the meeting to order.

2. *Opening Prayer – All; led by Ann Sutton*

3. *Approval of Minutes*

Motion: (Adrien Gagnier, Joan Martell) That the Minutes for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, February 3, 2014 be corrected under section 6.1d and section 6.2. Carried.

6.1d) Work to increase the percentage of retention (removed % percentage range)

6.2 There is a Social Studies Program now available that ties into the new curriculum in grades 1 & 4.

4. *Approval of Agenda*

Motion: (Gloria Knoll) That the Agenda for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, February 3, 2014 be revised to include additional agenda item regarding “Recent court ruling in Toronto area regarding a secondary student allowed to not attend Masses & Retreats while attending a Catholic School”. Carried.

5. *Business Arising*

5.1 *Current Activities to promote families to choose Catholic Education*

Ann Sutton spoke on the unique gift that provides student education through faith from kindergarten to Grade 12. She indicated that there are 4 timeframes which are significant in addressing our gift of catholic education:

- Birth to before Elementary
- During Elementary
- Transition from Elementary to Secondary
- During Secondary

Ann Sutton set up an activity for small groups of 3 or 4 members to go around the room to each timeframe station and list activities that are currently being done at that time or activities that can be done as improvements on chart paper provided. The committee got 30 minutes to do this and then as a committee reviewed some of these activities.

Dan Parr liked the recommendation and approved the recommendation on a go forward basis.

6. *New Business*

6.1 *Getting the Fuller Picture*

6.2 *Role of CFAC in promoting the choice of Catholic Education*

6.3 *Next Steps*

To ensure that the board is getting the full picture of what can be done to promote the choice of Catholic Education at the 4 timeframe mention above, Ann Sutton suggested that a survey be sent to Principals. Ann Sutton will draft a survey for the next CFAC meeting. Discussion occurred within the group to understand the role of CFAC committee. A suggestion was brought up to create a brochure to foster Catholic Education during these 4 timeframes, the group was all in favour of working in groups to create the brochure.

6.4 *Court Ruling – AZOR vs. Dufferin Peel Catholic DSB*

Dan Parr summarized highlights of the current situation

- 3 judges ruled in favour of family to be exempt from Mass & Retreats at school
- Directors/ Trustees have received a lot of legal advice regarding this issue
- The hope is that the appeal will reverse decision but decision was made not to submit an appeal due to the upcoming election which would make it an election issue.
- Time will come when appeal takes place, until then secondary will need to deal with this. Not applicable to elementary schools.
- This ruling only applies to non-catholics as per policy in September

7. *School Reports*

St. Anne – Blenheim: Marcia would like to see more parent representatives on this committee.

Sacred Heart – Port Lambton: Muskoka fundraisers were a huge success, Great literacy program for Stations of the Cross, School Family meal was enjoyed by families during the Easter season.

St. Patrick's: 66 students and 8 staff visited Italy and attend Mass at the Vatican including Principal, Rob Cicchelli who indicated that the trip was amazing.

Georges P. Vanier: Student attending 'Me to We Mini' at UCC, Raising money for Partners of Hope, presented "Passion Play" at St. Joseph's Church.

Ursuline College: Grade 12 - 30 hr Fast taking place, Grade 9 class prayed 'Stations of the Cross' and linked to UCC life.

St. Michael – Ridgetown: \$1300 raised for a school in Equidor, Student attending 'Me to We Mini' at UCC.

Sacred Heart – Sarnia: Confessions at school ran quickly and smoothly.

St. Ursula: Student attending ‘Me to We Mini’ at UCC

Human Resources – 1st HR retreat occurring in August

7. *Closing Prayer; led by Ann Sutton*

8. *Adjournment*

The Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, April 28, 2014 adjourned at 7:20 p.m.