



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MINUTES

CATHOLIC FAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, April 24, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre

Chair: Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education

Trustee: Brenda Rumble

Present: Rob Cicchelli – Principal, St. Patrick Secondary School
Marcia Vermey – French Immersion Parent, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Terri Sinasac – Vice Principal, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Michelle MacLean – French Immersion Parent, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Margaret Palmer – System Chaplaincy Leader
Gloria Knoll- OECTA representative & Teacher, Sacred Heart, Sarnia
Joseph Palko – Chaplain, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Joan Martell – SEA Technology Support Teacher
Kim Gaiswinkler – Teacher & Faith Ambassador, St. Ursula Catholic School
Raymond Girard – Teacher, Ursuline College Chatham
Thomas Dula – Chaplain, Ursuline College Chatham

Regrets: Luana Sfalcin – Principal, St. John Fisher Catholic School
Fr. Ray Lawhead – Episcopal Vicar, Sarnia Deanery
Dino Petrucci – Teacher, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Mary Jo Cocarell –OECTA representative &Teacher, Sacred Heart, Sarnia

Recording Secretary: Kim Fitzmorris

Part 1: Symposium

1. Welcome and Introductions

Laura Callaghan, chair of the meeting, welcomed and thanked those in attendance and called the meeting to order. 5:00 pm

2. Opening Prayer – All; led by Margaret Palmer

3. *Explanation of the Catholic Education Symposium*

Bishops have asked for us to gather (teams from every school board, any group that identified with Catholic education)

They would like face to face feedback, promote online participation

In the fall they will send out a comprehensive report from all of the feedback

The agenda for the symposium will be based on all of the feedback.

From the symposium the Bishops will develop a Pastoral Letter called *Renewing the Promise*.

CFAC members engaged in small group discussions around the 3 questions

1. What are some ways that Catholic education in Ontario supports students to be living witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ?
2. What are some of the challenges facing Catholic education in Ontario?
3. What are some opportunities for Catholic education in Ontario that will help shape a positive future?

Everyone took the time to sign up <http://signup.thotex.com/iceont/Pyv>

4. *Group Discussion*

Part 2: CFAC Meeting

1. *Welcome*

Laura Callaghan, chair of the meeting, called the regular CFAC meeting to order.

2. *Approval of Minutes*

Motion: (approved by Kim and Joan) **That the Minutes for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, February 6, 2017 be approved.** *Carried.*

3. *Approval of Agenda*

Motion: (Approved by Joan and Brenda) **That the Agenda for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, April 24, 2017 be approved as presented.** *Carried.*

4. *Pro-Life Initiatives at SCCDSB*

Joseph Palko- Pro-life message is not optional for us as Catholics. Are we teaching a pro-life message in our schools? Are we giving this same value as other initiatives?

What has our school board done in response to our Bishop's call regarding euthanasia?

Could money be set aside each year for bus for UCC and St. Pat's to go to March for Life?

Deacon Raymond- Could this include elementary students (grade 7/8 students)? Could they fundraise?

Margaret: We could encourage principals to consider how they will promote a prolife message and how much money they will devote.

Could we have a school board “Year of Life”?

Margaret- Could we bring this to Exec Council?

5. *Reports on Board Initiatives*

Great Family of Our Church Gathering

-well received

Interactive Stations of the Cross

Margaret has been out to many schools with students leading the Interactive Stations

Christian Meditation

Margaret will be doing school visits all through May

Schools are exploring this as one way to pray.

One school started their Christmas concert with Christian meditation.

Feedback from one school- how can we build a greater understanding with the students based on the feedback

Living Rosary

Margaret will be doing school visits all through May

6. *Subcommittee Reports*

Faith Day:

Parish/Home/School:

IF we do not improve the integration our numbers in our Catholic schools and churches will decline

Parent Council representative- if parent rep on Parish council it is a

Standing agenda item at every school advisory council meeting – conversation about Parish/Home/School Council

School accountability- who does the Parent council report to?

Is there a role for the Faith Ambassador- it is on their job description

Gather an inventory of engagement strategies that are existing between schools and Parish.

If approved, present this at a deanery meeting.

Living our Faith Newsletter/Website:

Margaret will add the “Join the Conversation” flyer to the website

Visible Catholic Culture of Our Schools:

How will we deepen Catholicity in our schools?

Before we enter school- Statue of Saint, signs or television- thought of the day or week connected to Faith

Entering the School- alter, statue, interactive prayer table

How much do the students have a part? Could have prayer cards for students struggling
Could add Rosaries and a “How to Pray the Rosary” card
Bulletin board- church connections- church news, picture of the priest, contact information,
call to Alter server, be a lector etc.
In the classroom- Interactive prayer table, access to Bible, Opportunities to question to
wonder, to investigate Faith

Catholic Education Week:

Muskoka Woods:

Leadership camp- Should it be more shaped as discipleship?

7. *Deanery or Province-Wide Initiatives*

Catholic Education Week

Margaret sent out the prayers, and resources to the schools.

Laudato Si

Preservation of our home, care of our home

7 pm Tuesday May 2nd

Together in Faith

Go onto the website and explore- many resources

8. *Future Agenda Business*

Lighting Our Way Award

Year of Life

Faith Day

Will be in April next year

Forward the dates for next year’s meetings to CFAC members when the meetings calendar is finalized.

9. *Closing Prayer: All; led by Margaret Palmer*

10. *Adjournment*

The Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, April 24, 2017 adjourned at
6:51