

*Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board*  
**PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC)**  
**MINUTES**  
**Monday, January 13, 2020**



**Catholic Education Centre**  
**Meeting Room 6**  
**6:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Attendance: Paul Best, Rose Burton Spohn, Tanya Running, Kelli Verdecchia, Danny Viotto, Kathleen Zambusi, Nadia Zanatta, Jessica Zeppa

Regrets: John Caputo, Tony D'Agostino, Tyler Dunn, Elizabeth Scott, Cindy Stewart, Brittany Varlow

Chair: Kelli Verdecchia

Minutes: Danny Viotto

TOPIC	NOTES	LED BY
Prayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We said the board prayer together</li> </ul>	K. Verdecchia,
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everyone took the opportunity to introduce themselves since we had some new members attend.</li> </ul>	K. Verdecchia,
Review of Minutes from Nov. 26, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were approved.</li> </ul>	K. Verdecchia,
CSC Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Holy Cross</b> – The CSC created and ran a Christmas store for students to buy gifts for their family members. In addition, the CSC will focus on facilitating pasta and pizza days. The CSC will also assist with a Valentine's Day dance which includes prizes such as a Cineplex gift card. Also, funds from last year's CSC fundraising were approved to purchase some new jerseys for the student teams. There was discussion regarding the start of a Holy Cross Facebook page and also further utilizing school dojo to assist with communication to parents and families.</li> <li><b>Holy Family</b> – The first CSC meeting was held and the Chair and Co-chair were selected. So far the committee has assisted with the breakfast committee along with the Christmas Craft Show. Money was raised and some was donated to the grade 8 field trip. In addition, the CSC assists with the School Pizza Days.</li> <li><b>Our Lady of Lourdes (Elliott Lake)</b> – Two meetings have been held thus far. The CSC is currently in the process of planning "Embracing the Arts" PRO Grant. The house teams at the school participate in a number of activities. New house team shirts were purchased through fundraising from CSC and distributed to all students prior to the Christmas break. Additional fundraisers are being discussed by the CSC. There are approximately 9 parents on CSC and the team is utilizing Google docs/classroom to ensure that all can communicate if they cannot attend meetings.</li> <li><b>St. Francis French Immersion</b> – The CSC is in the early stages of planning the kindergarten play area. A proposal was submitted to the CSC and the CSC is in the process of beginning discussions with the Plant Department to understand the guidelines of what can be included in the kindergarten play area. One of the ideas is a "mud kitchen" which is a pretend kitchen created out of pallets and the students can enhance the kitchen as they see through their own creativity and imagination.</li> </ul>	All

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>St. Paul</b> – The CSC has had one meeting. The focus is on having 4-6 events throughout the year. The CSC served milk and cookies to the students. The next events are a school bonfire and a luau dance in April. The students have received new sport uniforms which were funded through CSC fundraising.</li> </ul>	
SEAC Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The last meeting was held in December and the main discussion focused on Special Incident Portion (SIP) funding applications and the process in which our board went through to apply for \$1.8 million dollars in government claims. This assists in funding to allow for additional Educational Assistants to work with our students with special needs. SEAC is awaiting to hear the decision from the government.</li> </ul>	R. Burton Spohn
PRO Grant Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The HSCDSB was provided \$4,873.94 for PRO grants within the board. The PIC committee was responsible for review of applications and distribution of funds. The following schools were given approval by the PIC for funding based on their PRO grant applications:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ St. Basil Elementary: \$1000</li> <li>✓ St. Mary School (Massey): \$453</li> <li>✓ Our Lady of Lourdes (Elliott Lake): \$2000</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Remaining balance: \$1,429.94</li> </ul> <p>The PIC committee has agreed to approve an additional \$1000 to Our Lady of Lourdes (Elliott Lake) since they have requested to expand their project requiring additional funds. The total balance at this point is \$429.94.</p>	K. Verdecchia, D. Viotto
Multi-year Strategic Planning (MYSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tony D'Agostino was not able to make the meeting this evening, therefore Rose decided to report on this item.</li> <li>• The HSCDSB has a multi-year strategic plan that is coming up for renewal since our current plan is expiring as of June 2020. Strategic plans are typically 3-5 years in length.</li> <li>• There will be surveys sent out in April to gather feedback in order to inform the Multi-Year Strategic Plans. Principals and/or Vice Principals will be reaching out to school communities to assist in conducting the surveys.</li> <li>• The hope is to launch the new MYSP in September 2020.</li> </ul>	R. Burton Spohn
PIC Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following idea was proposed to the committee by Nadia Zanatta for the schools in the east. The committee further discussed the idea and are suggesting that the opportunity be offered to all schools in the system. The idea consists of having an opportunity for each school to connect with their community reserve to listen to a local speaker specific to that reserve - highlighting the importance of building relationships, embracing the culture and establishing confidence within the education system would be beneficial. This opportunity would be open to all students, staff, and families - strengthening the home - school - and community triangle - allowing a variety of perspectives to be appreciated. This opportunity would increase parent involvement within the school system as it would serve as a method to provide rich learning opportunities about the importance of being involved in your child/children's education - from an Indigenous perspective - breaking down barriers and learning from each other. Relating to a speaker that is local to the reserve also has a large impact on the overall message of success.</li> </ul>	K. Verdecchia, D. Viotto

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Danny, Paul and Nadia will bring this idea up at the next principals meeting (end of January) to gather their thoughts on the idea.</li> <li>• The information will then be relayed back to the PIC committee on February 10.</li> </ul>	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.</li> </ul>	

*Next meeting: Monday, February 10 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.*