

**MINUTES FOR THE OPEN SESSION BOARD MEETING OF THE
HURON-SUPERIOR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024 @ 7:15 PM
IN THE BOARD ROOM**

PRESENT: Trustees:

Sandra Turco (Chair), John Bruno (Vice-Chair), Carol Amadio, John Caputo, Kerri Commanda (virtual), Tony D'Agostino, Lindsay Liske, Gary Trembinski

Officials:

Fil Lettieri (Director of Education), Joe Chilelli, Stephanie Circelli, Justin Pino, Franca Spadafora, Syndy Withers

Student Trustees:

Kenzie Garson, Mya Jensen, Alexander Oraziatti

REGRETS: Carol MacEachern, Kathleen Rosilius

Vision and Values

Director Lettieri highlighted the St. Francis French Immersion Catholic School video "Pilgrims of Hope" submitted by the grade 4 class and teacher, Jon Carnaroli, for the OCSTA short video contest. The students showcased their creativity and proudly represented the board with this outstanding submission.

Superintendent Spadafora commended the excellent job of the St. Basil Catholic School choir, led by Vice-Principal Hannah Lettieri, for their singing of the National Anthem at the recent Soo Greyhound hockey game. The 25 students from grades 4-8 have also participated in various community events, such as the Downtown Plaza tree lighting.

Superintendent Circelli congratulated the students at St. Mary's College, led by teacher, Rita Trecroce, for raising over \$10,000 for Operation Smile. Donations raised were doubled from last year and will help over 500 children across the world.

Director Lettieri spoke to the recent visit from Ministry of Education officials: Clayton La Touche (Assistant Deputy Minister), Andrew Locker (Director of the Field Services Branch) and Stephen Simard (Regional Manager, North Regional Office), who toured St. Paul and St. Mary's French Immersion Catholic Schools. Our guests toured the Student Support and STAR Program classes, to which they were impressed with the board's dedication to our students with special education needs.

Chair Turco highlighted the Christmas Card contest hosted by Mayor Shoemaker. Congratulations were extended to our student, Lyla Randall, for being selected as one of the five winners from more than 500 submissions for the Christmas card designs.

Chair Turco also extended thanks on behalf of former trustee, Leslie Cassidy-Amadio for all those schools, students and staff who participated in the JoyFull Socks campaign. Support for this worthwhile cause is greatly appreciated by the Sault Ste. Marie community.

Adg# Mtn#

B-1 B-934 Moved by: G. Trembinski Seconded by: C. Amadio

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board adopts the Agenda for the Board Meeting of Wednesday, December 11, 2024.

CARRIED

E-1 B-935 Moved by: L. Liske Seconded by: T. D'Agostino

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Open Board Meeting of November 13, 2024.

Trustee Caputo requested that item J-1-a **Annual Trustee Expenses** from the November 13, 2024, minutes read as follows:

As per Board Policy 2007, Superintendent Pino presented the summary of Trustee Expenses for the 2023-24 school year. A discussion was held, and concerns were brought forward. This report is for information purposes only.

CARRIED

E-2 B-936 Moved by: T. D'Agostino Seconded by: J. Bruno

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In-Camera Board Meeting of November 13, 2024.

CARRIED

G-1 FSL Recruitment

Jordan D'Addetta (Special Assignment Teacher, FSL and MLL Lead) and Adam Carricato (Teacher, St. Basil Catholic School) presented the board's plan for FSL recruitment. They highlighted the outstanding video that was prepared through funding from an OCSTA (Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association) and OPSBA (Ontario Public School Boards' Association) grant. A guide was prepared that outlines the five strategies for FSL Teacher Recruitment for English-Language School Board. Accomplishments and next steps were also presented to trustees.

G-2 Elementary Athletics

Superintendent Chilelli, Paul Best (Principal, St. Paul Catholic School), and Nadia Zanatta (Vice-Principal, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School) presented an overview of sporting events held in the board's elementary schools which help to further the goals of the HSCDSB strategic directions. The process of adding an additional sport for the students is in progress and hopefully in place by next school year.

I-1 B-937 Moved by: L. Liske Seconded by: C. Amadio

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board approve the audited financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2024, as outlined in the Report to the Director dated December 11, 2024.

CARRIED

I-2 B-938 Moved by: J. Bruno Seconded by: G. Trembinski

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board allows Carol Amadio, John Bruno, Tony D'Agostino, Lindsay Liske, Kathleen Rosilius, Gary Trembinski, Sandra Turco and Director Lettieri to travel to Toronto to attend the OCSTA 2025 Catholic Trustees' Seminar on January 17-18, 2025.

A recorded vote was requested by Trustee Caputo. The results were as follows:

FOR: 7

AGAINST: 1

CARRIED

I-3 B-939 Moved by: G. Trembinski Seconded by: J. Bruno

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board approves the following field trip applications:

1. Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School (Chapleau) – travelling to Toronto, ON on June 1, 2025 and returning June 6, 2025.
2. Our Lady of Lourdes French Immersion School (Elliot Lake) – travelling to Toronto, ON on June 17, 2025, and returning June 20, 2025.
3. St. Basil Catholic School – travelling to Yorkton, SK on May 28, 2025 and returning on June 5, 2025.
4. St. Francis French Immersion School – travelling to Toronto, ON on June 17, 2025 and returning June 20, 2025.
5. St. Mary's College – travelling to Vancouver, BC on April 7, 2025 and returning on April 10, 2025.
6. Holy Name of Jesus Catholic School – travelling to Toronto, ON on May 19, 2025 and returning on May 23, 2025.

CARRIED

J-1-a Annual Report

Director Lettieri and Danielle Dupuis, Communications Officer, presented the Board's Annual Report for 2024, which highlights the board's achievements and next steps in fulfilling its current Multi-Year Strategic Plan. The report is being distributed to all schools, families, and parishes.

J-1-b SMC Activity Report

Student Trustees Garson, Jensen and Oraziotti highlighted some of the December events at the school, including components from faith, sports, student council, Indigenous Student Union (ISU) and Student Senate. A few noteworthy items were "Stuff a Bus", ISU hosted "Youth to Youth" lunch, gingerbread house decorating contest and the Heaven Cent campaign.

N-1 B-940 Moved by: T. D’Agostino Seconded by: J. Bruno

That the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board meeting of Wednesday,
December 11, 2024, adjourns at 9:12 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson: _____

Secretary: _____