



Kenora Catholic District School Board
 We are a Roman Catholic school system dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and meaningful partnerships with family, community and Church.

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 16, 2020

MEETING DATE:	Wednesday, September 16, 2020
LOCATION OF MEETING:	Microsoft Teams
SUBJECT OF MEETING:	Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
TIME OF MEETING:	11:30 a.m. – 12:02 p.m.
NEXT MEETING:	11:30 am - December 9, 2020

ATTENDED BY:

	ATTENDANCE	PERSON	TITLE
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Holmstrom	Chair - Pope John Paul II School Parent Representative
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lana Goodman	St. Louis School Parent Representative
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gianna Poltronetti	St. John School Parent Representative
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Corinna Glazier	St. John School Principal, KCDSB Representative
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Randi Casey	Northwestern Health Unit Community Representative
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Derek Haime	Director of Education
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul White	Superintendent of Instructional Services
8.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hilary Aitken	Ecole Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Vice Principal, KCDSB Representative
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Sweeney	Trustee Representative
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Landry	Trustee Representative
11.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Favreau	Vice Chair - Trustee
12.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Gallik	Chair - Trustee
13.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathy McQuillan	Recording Secretary

1. **Prayer** – Derek Haime

2. **Roll Call** – Derek Haime

Corinna Glazier and Gianna Poltronetti sent regrets

3. **Review of May 6, 2020 Minutes** – Derek Haime

Minutes reviewed and approved.

4. **Summary Report of the Parent Involvement Committee Chairs – April 2020**

Kathleen Holmstrom

The reports were presented virtually. A copy of the minutes is attached. The reports went well and were approved by the board of Trustees.

With the schools closing in March, the Parent Council had to halt all activities and fundraising. All schools were able to carry over their balances to this year. We are still under many restrictions



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this year as well. The Parent Councils are trying to work around the restrictions to provide some opportunities for our families.

5. 2020-2021 School Start-up – Derek Haime

We have had a very smooth start up thanks to the actions of our students, our parents preparing their students and our staff. Many community partners, including the Northwestern Health Unit have helped to guide us to have a safe school start-up. About 87% of our students returned to our schools, with about 13% of parents opting for our virtual school for their children.

We do have a virtual school that has been named and we will be picking a logo and more information will be available soon in that regard. Our start up manual has been posted on our website. Derek will also be sending out to the CPIC Committee for feedback the, *Draft Copy of the KCDSB Pivot Plan for At Home Learning*. [Pivot Plan to Teacher Directed At-Home Learning.docx](#) In the event the Ministry decides to go back to online learning the board is developing a very detailed plan so we can move quickly. Some areas of the plan are still being developed. We also have our SEAC committee, students and staff reviewing the plan.

6. School Updates:

Hilary Aitken: Start up for all the school went extremely well. The staff are collaborating well to address the daily glitches that have come up. All the principals are very pleased with how well start up went.

Kathleen Holmstrom: The PJP start up went well. Usually the Parent Council at PJP as well as the rest of our schools do a big fall event for the families. What they decided to do for the PJP event is to send pumpkins home with the students to do carving with their families. The students will be encouraged to post pictures and voting will take place to award prizes. The Parent Council wants to send out the message that they are still working for the students and their families.

Paul White: Paul reported that the Virtual School has started up well. Mark Richards, vice principal of the virtual high school, and Jared Ralko, vice principal of the virtual elementary, have been working hard to ensure their students' needs are met. Broadband has been added and



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students are able to log on with KCDSB Chromebooks. We are working with communities and parents to keep the students engaged though the school year in a virtual setting.

7. Once Around the Table

Lana Goodman (St. Louis Parent Council): The Parent Council at St. Louis has not yet started up for this year, but she likes Kathleen's idea of the pumpkin activity at PJP and will bring that idea to her council. The Parent Council is proud of St. Louis becoming a *Living Arts School*, and the school continues that line of learning. She feels St Louis is doing a really good job and her children come home and except for having to wear a mask, don't notice a big difference.

Kathleen Holmstrom (PJP Parent Council): reported the students seem happy to be back at school and to be together with their friends.

Randi Casey (North Western Health Unit): Attached

Derek asked Randi to pass on our gratitude to a all her colleges at the NWHU on behalf of the CPIC committee and the KCDSB.

Hilary Aitken (Principal SMB): reported that the SMB Parent Council had an informal meeting online to discuss hot lunches, fundraising and the administration change at SMB. They have scheduled a formal meeting for next week.

Paul White (Superintendent of Instructional Services): reported that a Parent Council Committee will be set up for our virtual schools. He has heard from many parents regarding how much they appreciate the communication from Director Haime. He has been involved in many provincial discussions and can say that our board is extremely organized and at the forefront of what we are doing here at KCDSB.

Teresa Gallik (Chair of Trustees KCDSB): The trustees have met and are happy with how smoothly the start up has gone. She just had a call with the Minister of Education and the 72 other board chairs in the province. From that call she can see that our start-up has gone much



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smoother than many other boards in Ontario. She is very interested in the parental engagement as she can see it will be a challenge. She wants to ensure that when the school Parent Council meetings start up that a trustee representative will be at those meetings. She also has the opportunity to email the Minister or in the weekly Monday meetings with the Minister to bring forward questions or concerns from our parents.

Anne Sweeney (Trustee): Wanted to comment on how pleased and overwhelmed she is with our leadership during a summer of unknowns. Hearing regularly from our leaders over the summer gave her comfort.

She also picks up her granddaughter from school and she is so happy to see all the children back at school. The children seem happy and comfortable. She wanted to give a shout out to our amazing staff for the job they have done.

Derek Haime (Director of Education):

Parents Reaching out Grants have been received by the board and similar to last year which was about \$3000.00 for the entire board. Last year there was a centralized plan. There will be an upcoming meeting with Derek, Paul and the Principals and they will discuss this year's plan. The plan will then be sent out to the Catholic School Councils if that is acceptable to try again.

8. **Next Meeting: December 9, 2020**
 9. **Meeting Adjournment 12:32 pm – Derek Haime**
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COVID-19 and School

The NWHU has created a COVID-19 webpage with information and resources for all things related to return to school. Check it out at: <https://www.nwhu.on.ca/covid19/Pages/covid-19-and-safe-return-to-school.aspx>.

Topics include:

- Masks
- A link to the [Ontario School Screening tool](#)
- FAQ for parents
- FAQ video with Dr. Kit Young-Hoon
- Instructions for what to do when your child is ill
- And more!

The most important thing for parents can do to support a safe return to school is to screen your child each day using the online school screening tool, and follow instructions provided if your child fails the screen. The NWHU is working closely with boards to support a safe return to school, but parents also have an important responsibility to ensure children who are ill do not attend school.

The Northwestern Health Unit COVID-19 Hotline is here to help answer your COVID questions! The lines are open Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm. Call 1-866-468-2240.

What happens if there is a positive COVID-19 test in a school?

Northwestern Health Unit will contact the positive case and gather details about their contacts. The positive case will be directed to self-isolate and not return to school until they are no longer able to spread the virus (i.e. cleared by NWHU to return). If school-level contact tracing is required, Northwestern Health Unit will contact the school principal for additional details about contacts and to advise the school on enhanced cleaning measures. The NWHU will connect with everyone identified as a contact and will provide each with directions. Contacts of the case (as determined by NWHU from the information gathered) will be asked to self-monitor or self-isolate, depending on a risk assessment. If students or staff are excluded from school, they will be given a date or conditions on which it is safe to return.

Working together for your students' oral health

Due to COVID-19, we are unsure at this time whether NWHU will be able to provide dental services within schools this year. We will however be offering dental services in some of our offices. If parents have dental concerns we may be able to help them receive dental treatment free of charge, if they qualify. Contact your local health unit office for more information.

Student Immunization Services

Due to COVID-19, NWHU may not be able to provide immunization services in the school setting, at least in the short term. Planning is underway to ensure immunizations continue to be accessible either in health unit offices and/or community settings. The NWHU will continue to make sure that all children attending school have up-to-date immunizations according to the current publicly funded immunization schedule for Ontario and in accordance with the Immunization of School Pupils Act.

Additional Nurses Initiative

The Northwestern Health Unit received notification from the Ministry of Health that five additional public health nurses will be funded to support schools in the catchment area.

Planning for recruitment is underway. In the meantime each school is already connected to one of our public health nurses, who touches base with the principal at least once per week.

Flu Clinics

Flu shots will be available beginning mid to late October. You can get a shot at the pharmacy (for those 5 years of age and older), from your health care provider, or from a NWHU clinic. All NWHU clinics will be by appointment only. Check our flu website for more information.

<https://www.nwhu.on.ca/ourservices/Flu/Pages/Flu.aspx>