

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

December 7, 2022

MEETING DATE:	Wednesday, December 7, 2022
LOCATION OF MEETING:	Board Room at CEC and Microsoft Teams
SUBJECT OF MEETING:	Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
TIME OF MEETING:	12:00 PM – 1:13 PM
NEXT MEETING:	11:30 AM Lunch – Meeting 12-1 PM – Wednesday, February 15, 2023

ATTENDED BY:

	ATTENDANCE	PERSON	TITLE
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Holmstrom	CPIC Chair and St Thomas Aquinas High School Parent Representative
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angela McEvoy	St. Louis School Parent Representative
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tressa Main	St. Louis School Parent Representative
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grace Dunford	St. John Paul II School Representative
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Kurtz	St. John Paul II School Representative
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gianna Polronetti	St. John School Parent Representative
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy McCann	École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kylie Hughes	St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Principal
9.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Richards	St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Vice Principal
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Randi Casey	Northwestern Health Unit Community Representative
11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kurtz	Director of Education
12.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hilary Aitken	École Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Principal, KCDSB Representative
13.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Derek Favreau	Trustee Representative
14.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angela Bishop	Trustee Representative
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Gallik	Trustee - Chair
16.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Landry	Trustee – Vice-Chair
17.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathy McQuillan	Recording Secretary

1. **Prayer** – Nicole Kurtz

2. **Roll Call** – Cathy McQuillan

Regrets: Kathleen Holmstrom, Tressa Main, Teresa Gallik, Paul Landry

3. **Welcome CPIC Members and Newly Appointed CPIC Trustees** – Angela Bishop and Derek Favreau: Nicole Kurtz

4. **CPIC Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair** – Nicole Kurtz

Angela McEvoy: St. Louis Parent Representative put her name forward to be CPIC Co- Chair

(Angela will contact) Tessa Main: St. Louis Parent Representative to be CPIC Co- Chair



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5. CPIC May 10, 2023, Meeting Date Change to May 17, 2023 – Cathy McQuillan

6. Board & Ministry Update – Nicole Kurtz

- New Board of Trustees
- Season of Advent Prayer Services, reconciliation services, and Christmas Concerts
- Make sure you have the KCDSB App to keep track of upcoming events
- A reminder that Monday, January 2nd is a statutory holiday, so students do not return to school until Tuesday, January 3rd. We will be sending out reminders
- OPP Lockdown Drills – Update. All lockdown drills occurred at Kenora Schools. OPP met with Superintendent Jamey Robertson where suggestions were made, which we will be implementing
- The OPP was very impressed with our student and school response.
- Recommendations for consideration were discussed
- The Ministry of Education has announced that the Social Studies Curriculum for grades 1-3 will be updated to include mandatory Indigenous-focused learning beginning in September 2023
- New – Pro-Grant funding is now part of annual funding from the Ministry in the ‘Grant for Student Needs’ (GSN). In the past, it was a separate fund that we would not know about until late fall. They changed this so that CPICs/boards can know that they have the funding and can make plans. The amount we receive this year is \$3500. I would like the committee to consider that the funds this year go towards the Family-Centric events. These events align with the funds being used to bring families into the school as parent engagement.

7. 2023-2024 Calendar Consultation – Nicole Kurtz

Nicole Kurtz consulted the CPIC to get feedback on the proposed 2023-24 School Year Calendar. She will report her finding to the Keewatin Patricia District School Board

1. What is the preferred start date for the 2023-2024 School Year:

- a. Week of August 28, 2023 or b) Week of September 4, 2023

2. What is the preferred start date for Christmas Holiday.

- a. December 15, 2023 or b) December 22, 2023

3. Would you like to provide any input on the scheduling of Professional Development Days for 2023-2024.



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8. School Updates – Hilary Aitken

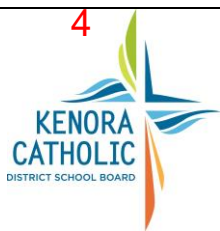
Schools are busy preparing for Christmas Concerts.

9. Business arising from last meeting – Winter Open Gyms – Grace Dunford

- **Grace Dunford** spoke with Marnie Buffet, KCDSB Early Years Coordinator, and she confirmed that we did not have to go through Early On or Best Start to coordinate open gyms for families in the winter. It is not seen as kindergarten recruitment as we are the parent council putting on the activity and not the school board.
- It was decided not to restrict the ages of children attending as older siblings can attend with younger siblings.
- Snacks and juice will be provided. Grace will speak with Marnie to get an idea of how much of a budget they would need to host these events.
- This would be considered Community Use of Schools, so there should not be any charge to use the facilities. We would have to pay for OSBIE Insurance for this event.
- **Hilary Aitken** asked if we could use some of the PRO Grant money to help support this program.
- **Nicole Kurtz** confirmed the CPIC can decide if they would like to use some of the PRO Grant to fund this program.
- **Grace Dunford** will consult with Marnie Buffet to estimate the budget cost
- **Grace Dunford** and Nicole Kurtz will find out the cost of Community Use of Schools and OSBIE Insurance.
- **Hilary Aitken** added you would need a clean-up crew or there would be a charge for custodians as this is extra work for them.
- **Grace Dunford** is hoping that all Parent Councils would be willing to take a turn hosting the events at each of their schools.
- **Grace Dunford** will consult the Sunday Smiles and Early On Calendars to pick dates for our events.
- Next Step: To communicate with our Parent Council Executive before our next meeting.
- **Nicole Kurtz** extended the invitation to St. John School in Red Lake if they wanted to host a family event, we would be able to use some of the PRO Grant.
- **Gianna Poltronetti** will take the invitation to the St. John School Parent Council.

10. Round Table Discussions

- **Cathy McQuillan:** Will send out the Invitations to the February 15 and May 17, CPIC meetings and the June 6, Year End Presentations to Trustees.



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- **Grace Dunford:** St. John Paul II School – **Attached 6**
- **Grace** asked if anyone at the table had experience with a blanket lottery license.
- **Nicole Kurtz** answered that STAHS has a blanket license and each group gets a different month to do their fundraising.
- **Hilary Aitken:** Regarding the KCDSB App she asked if we could send out some further information to see if we can encourage parents to use the App.
- **Grace Dunford:** responded when the App was launched, they sent out postcards, a video on Facebook, and an email went home to all our families. She suggested perhaps they could do a Welcome Back Campaign after Christmas and remind parents to check the KCDSB App to find out what is happening in their child's school.
- **Gianna Poltronetti: St. John School**
 - **Bully Awareness and Prevention Week.**
 - We are a "Sock" community, (Supportive, Open Minded, Courageous, and Kind)
 - Monday Morning: K – 1, Assembly and read aloud, "Oddrey"
 - Odd Socks for the week
 - Tuesday: Class paired up for activities. Show their individuality in the socks they created
 - Wednesday: Sock Hop
 - Thursday: Mix it up Breakfast with overnight French Toast
 - 9:30 – 10:30: Michael Jacques author read "Can't Read Can't Write"
 - **Prevention Program: Pilot Program**
 - Personality-based groups to provide prevention activities to reduce substance abuse in children. 2 x 90 minutes sessions per group.
 - **Grade 7-8 Career Fair: November 28-29, 2022**
 - Driving to Thunder Bay at 7:00 AM
 - Fort William Historical Park: A Walk Through Time, and a GPS scavenger hunt
 - Wacky Wings - \$20 Gift Card
 - Valhalla Inn hosted the Career Fair
 - **Christmas Fair** was held the beginning of December for the first time since Covid



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• Angela McEvoy – St. Louis School:

- Our Fall Festival was a success we had a good turnout of families come and enjoy pumpkin carving, and apple roasting over our fire pits, along with hot chocolate, cookies, and some fun spooky Halloween music.
- Grade 3 class had fun learning to make Focaccia.
- Grade 5 class learned to make soap.
- Grade 1 class learned to make beeswax candles.
- Some classes are doing a gift-making workshop
- The 2/3 class learned to make pasta
- Grade 3 class is making Christmas ornaments.
- Grade 4 class poured candles
- Grade 5 class had a card-making workshop and basket workshop
- Our Kindergarten class baked gingerbread.
- Grade 6 had a sewing workshop and worked hard on their community giving project.
- St. Louis choir is working hard to perfect their caroling skills for the upcoming holiday season
- St. Louis has their Christmas Luncheon this Friday, Dec. 9th.
- All of St. Louis School is working hard to show off their skills at our Christmas Concert.
- Parent Council is kicking off our Raffles on Monday, Dec. 12th. Prizes include a Pizza Oven, a Pontoon cruise, and 50/50. This was made possible by our generous sponsors Titan Contractors and the Main family.
- Our Christmas plant sale was a success.

- **Randi Casey – North Western Health Unit:** Attached 7

11. Meeting Adjournment – Nicole Kurtz

12. Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Please be advised that CPIC meetings are held at the Catholic Education Centre Board Room beginning with lunch at 11:30 AM. The meeting follows lunch 12:00 – 1:00 PM.

Month	Dates
October	Wednesday, October 19, 2022
December	Wednesday, December 7, 2022
February	Wednesday, February 15, 2023
May	Wednesday, May 10, 2023
Year-End Presentation to the Board of Trustees	
	5:00 pm, June 6, 2023

St. John Paul II School – December 7, 2022

- Fundraising Activities:
 - Smencils sold every Thursday, \$3 each, all funds raised go towards the Grade 5 trip to Festival
 - Santa Paws, pet photos with Santa, raised \$800 towards new playground equipment.
 - Fire pit fundraiser, tickets just went on sale, \$5 each or three for \$10 all proceeds again going to the Festival trip.
 - Christmas raffle baskets, popular with students.
 - Tried a blanket lottery license for the first time. License is good all year-round, just need to fill out information after we hold a lottery. Will see how that goes and if it's worth doing again next year.
- School Activities:
 - Yoga and Karate finished at the end of November. They were very popular and the kids had a blast. This was through our Jump Start grant so we're excited to see what other sports activities Tammy and Travis have planned for students next.
 - Next week is a variety of Christmas themed days, but the one students look forward to the most is Kids Go Shopping. It's a really great event where students can buy presents for their families. They bring whatever they can afford and purchase presents which are donated by other families. A really great way for students to feel the Christmas spirit and it's a great environmental initiative that encourages secondhand gifts. Parents can't wait to see what they get!
 - Christmas concert this year, families are looking forward to that.
- Additional Comments:
 - We wanted to thank Mariette and her team for all the family events that have taken place so far. They've been really fun and families have enjoyed them. It's nice for parents to have dinner taken care of and do a fun family activity. We're looking forward to the events planned in the new year.

Routine immunizations in schools:

Northwestern Health Unit staff will be in your school to provide immunizations based on the [Ontario publicly funded immunization schedule](#) and the [Immunization of School Pupils Act \(ISPA\)](#). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many students may need to be caught up on vaccines. The plan to get all students caught up and in compliance with the ISPA may look different in each community, but generally public health nurses will visit:

- Secondary schools for grades 9 – 12 in December 2022 and March 2023
- Elementary schools for primary immunizations in January and February 2023
- Elementary and secondary school visits for grades 7 & 8, and remaining 9 – 12s in April and May 2023

Letters and consent forms will be sent home by the school for students requiring vaccination. Signed consent forms are collected by the school and provided to NWHU staff. New this year, parents will also have the option to provide consent online through our website.

More information here: [Vaccines and Immunizations – Northwestern Health Unit \(nwhu.on.ca\)](https://nwhu.on.ca/Vaccines-and-Immunizations)

Thank you for your continued assistance in keeping our students and communities healthy.

Stay home when sick

Viral illnesses are widespread in the region. Masking in all indoor public spaces is strongly encouraged. Stay home and keep children home when they feel unwell. Do not visit vulnerable people while unwell, including those in hospital or long-term care homes.

The [School and child care screening tool](#) provides instructions on what to do when someone is sick, and when they can return to school.

You can also visit this website for more information: [Public health measures and advice | ontario.ca](https://publichealthmeasuresandadvice.on.ca)

Fall vaccine clinics – Flu and COVID-19 vaccine

The NWHU is still offering COVID-19 and Flu vaccinations. You can book your appointment on our website: [Booking a COVID-19 or Flu Vaccine Appointment – Northwestern Health Unit \(nwhu.on.ca\)](https://nwhu.on.ca/Booking-a-COVID-19-or-Flu-Vaccine-Appointment)

Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program

The Northern Fruit and Vegetable program will begin in January for K-8 schools. It is a free, school-based program that supplies two servings of fresh produce each week to elementary students, helping them to like, accept and eat fruit and vegetables. Posters featuring a variety of fruits and vegetables will be delivered to schools soon to complement the program. The posters are available in French and English.