

Minutes of the October 28, 2021  
Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Meeting

via Zoom  
Thursday, October 28, 2020  
165A D'Youville Street  
Time: 6:00 p.m.

**In attendance:** Laura Kuzenko – Principal, St. Benedict  
Marsha Lowe – St. Benedict  
Paola Stefanuto – St. Benedict  
Angela Polischuk – Principal, St. Charles Elementary  
Amanda Demore – St. Charles Elementary  
Natasha Folino – Principal, St. Francis  
Susan Traverse-Wong – Immaculate Conception  
Ellen Balfe – Immaculate Conception and Bishop Alexander Carter  
Kelly Pestell – St. Anne  
Mel Young – Holy Cross  
Shannon Gouchie – St. Charles College and Holy Trinity  
Maureen O'Hare-Nebre – Marymount Academy

**SCDSB:** Michael Bellmore – Chair of the Board  
Joanne Bénard – Director of Education

**1. Prayer and welcome**

J. Bénard led the Committee in prayer, thanked everyone for their participation and invited Committee members to introduce themselves.

**2. School Board Update**

M. Bellmore (Board Chair) provided a Board update which included the following:

- a. Student enrollment continues to be healthy at SCDSB with an increase in enrolment at Sept. 30 compared to our projections in June, 2021.

Current enrolment:

- Face to face (elementary) – 4452
- Remote (elementary) – 159 (3.5%)
- Face to face (secondary) – 1954
- Hybrid (secondary) – 158 (8%)

- b. Bishop Alexander Carter Catholic Secondary School – New grade 7 to 12 model is now in place. The 7 and 8 wing has been renovated, offering bright learning spaces which includes up to date technology.

- Student enrolment projections in June – 172 grade 7 and 8 students, current enrolment is at 201.
- Official opening was held on September 28 and was attended by members of the school and system team, along with students. The highlight was the opening prayer with Jennifer Geddes and prayer, smudge and closing song offered by Elder, Sandra Corbiere from Sagamok and Wahnapiatae First Nation.

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**Vision:** Leaders in Learning and Faith.

**Mission:** To realize each student's potential within our inclusive Catholic learning community by nurturing and developing their mind, body and spirit.

- c. An overview of the capital projects completed over the summer were shared with the committee, including photos of the completed work. The highlights included the following projects:
- Marymount Classrooms and Ventilation
  - St Albert Corridors and Ventilation
  - SCC Corridors and Ventilation
  - Bishop Carter Classrooms, Washrooms and Gym
  - St Charles Elementary exterior cladding
  - Holy Trinity Stage
  - Various School LED Retrofits
  - Immaculate Conception Sign and Cladding as shown below



Other projects currently being completed include:

- St Charles Elementary Ventilation
- St Francis Gym Curtain and Acoustic Wall Panels
- St Anne Ventilation
- St. John Ventilation

### **3. School Re-Opening Plan**

J. B nard invited Committee Members to visit the [Board Website](#) to review the 2021-2022 re-opening plan and other COVID-19 related information including the COVID-19 Vaccination Board Disclosure Attestation report and the Ventilation profile for the school board and each individual school. These reports are updated regularly.

### **4. PIC overview**

J. B nard provided an overview of PIC including the purpose, what makes an effective PIC, resources to support the work of Catholic School Council members, as well as the available funds to support parent engagement at the school level. (see PowerPoint attached).

### **5. 2021-2022 Election**

- a. Paola Stefanuto, member of the St. Benedict Catholic School Council was nominated as Chair of the 2021-2022 PIC. The committee unanimously supported the nomination and thanked Paola for her leadership and commitment to Sudbury Catholic Schools.
- b. Amanda Demore, member of the St. Charles Elementary Catholic School Council was nominated as the Vice-Chair of the 2021-2022 PIC. The committee unanimously supported the nomination and thanked Amanda for her leadership and commitment to Sudbury Catholic Schools.

### **6. Supporting our SCDSB families**

P. Stefanuto led a discussion on how we can support families in need at this time. She indicated that many families across the district are experiencing financial challenges and suggested that we work together in our schools to raise funds to support families during the Christmas season. The committee fully endorsed this idea. Paola shared the work that they are engaged in at St. Benedict raising funds

to go towards gift cards to be delivered to families in need across our system. This was a great success last year and continues to be a focus this year (see attached letter that was shared last year).

**7. Next Steps**

- a. PIC meeting dates for the 2021-2022 school year. All meetings will go from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.:
  - December 9, 2021
  - February 10, 2022
  - April 7, 2022
  - June 9, 2022
- b. We discussed offering learning sessions once again this school year for parents, educators, and community partners. A survey will be sent to all Chairs to complete with their Catholic School Councils to ensure that the sessions meet the needs of our community.

**8. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Focus area: Mental Health and Well Being supports in our schools.