
**Annual Board Meeting
November 17, 2025 – 3:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

(In person)

Present:

Trustees: Mary Helen Van Loon, Tina Doherty, Amy Cronin, Sue Muller and Jim McDade

Student Trustees: Addison Thuss, St. Anne's CSS, Clinton, Dean DeLuca, St. Michael CSS

Senior Administration: Director of Education Karen Tigani; Superintendents of Education Tara Boreham, Sean McDade; Superintendent of Business Mary-Ellen Ducharme

Chaplain: Dcn. Dan McPhee

Absent: N/A

1. Opening Business

- 1.1. Opening Prayer Liturgy - Dcn. Dan McPhee
- 1.2. O Canada - all
- 1.3. Land Acknowledgement - Superintendent Sean McDade
- 1.4. **Attendance and Welcome** - Noted above

Director of Education Karen Tigani welcomed all of the attendees gathered for the Annual Board Meeting and shared a few words from the address of his Holiness Pope Leo XIV to Educators on the Occasion of the Jubilee of World Education.

1.5. Approval of the Annual Board Meeting Agenda of November 17, 2025

Moved by: Mary Helen Van Loon

Seconded by: Amy Cronin

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the November 17, 2025, Annual Board Meeting.

Carried

1.6. Introduction of the Board of Trustees, Student Trustees, and Board Chaplain

Director Tigani introduced the Board of Trustees and the Student Trustee present.

Trustee McDade thanked Vice-chair Doherty and Chair Van Loon for their dedication and service to the Board this past year.

2. Appointment of Scrutineer

Director Tigani appointed Superintendent Ducharme to be the scrutineer.

3. Election of Officers

- 3.1. Nomination and Election of Chair

Moved by: Tina Doherty
Seconded by: Jim McDade
THAT Mary Helen Van Loon be nominated to the position of Chair of the Board.
Carried

Mary Helen Van Loon was re-acclaimed Chair of the Board.

3.2. Nomination and Election of Vice-Chair

Amy Cronin
Moved by: Tina Doherty
Seconded by: Jim McDade
THAT Amy Cronin be nominated to the position of Vice-Chair of the Board.
Carried

Amy Cronin was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Board.

Vice-Chair address:

I'm very honoured to be able to represent the Board in a leadership capacity as vice chair. My hope is to continue to advocate for a strong Catholic system that delivers for the mind, body and soul of each of our students, bringing the light of Christ to everyone. My vision for our Board is to employ a shared leadership model, one where we are able to utilize the many gifts that each of our trustees bring to the table, not simply the gifts of a single leader. We all bring skills that can be utilized and I'd like to help to be a conduit in involving and including others in the work that we do.

Our system has so much to offer our communities. I hope that we can continue to move forward in a way that continues with what is working well and in a way that we can listen and carefully consider where we can improve and engage in continuous improvement in a system that stands on the shoulders of those who came before us and fought for Catholic education for our youth and our community.

4. Committee Appointments

- 4.1. Catholic Education Team (1)
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Committee (1)
- Special Education Advisory Committee (1)
- Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (1)
- Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (1)
- Student Discipline Committee (Expulsion/Suspension Appeals) (3)
- Audit Committee (2)
- Transportation Committee (2)

Moved by: Sue Muller
Seconded by: Amy Cronin
THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the following statutory and standing committee appointments as follows:

Sue Muller be appointed as a member of the Catholic Education Team.
Jim McDade be appointed as a member of the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Anti-Racism Committee.
Mary Helen Van Loon be appointed as a member of the Special Education Advisory Committee.
Sue Muller be appointed as a member of the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

Mary Helen Van Loon be appointed as a member of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee.

Tina Doherty be appointed as a member of the Student Discipline Committee (Expulsion/Suspension Appeals).

Amy Cronin be appointed as a member of the Student Discipline Committee (Expulsion/Suspension Appeals).

Mary Helen Van Loon be appointed as a member of the Student Discipline Committee (Expulsion/Suspension Appeals).

Amy Cronin be appointed as a member of the Audit Committee.

Tina Doherty be appointed as a member of the Audit Committee.

Jim McDade be appointed as a member of the Transportation Committee.

Tina Doherty be appointed as a member of the Transportation Committee.

Carried

5. Borrowing By-Law 1-2025

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Amy Cronin

THAT the Chair or Vice-Chair and one of the Director of Education or the Superintendent of Business and Treasurer are authorized on behalf of the Board to borrow from time to time from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC") a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) to meet the current expenditures of the Board until the current revenue has been received, for the year (including the amounts required for the purposes mentioned in subsection 243 (1) and 243 (2) of the Act plus interest at a rate to be agreed upon from time to time with CIBC.

Carried

6. Appointment of Board Auditor

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Jim McDade

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board appoints BDO Canada LLP as the Board's external auditor for 2025/2026.

Carried

7. Appointment of Board Solicitor

Moved by: Sue Muller

Seconded by: Jim McDade

THAT Donnelly & Murphy Lawyers (Professional Corporation) be appointed as Board Solicitors, effective January 1, 2026 until December 31, 2026.

Carried

8. Annual Address by the Chair of the Board

I would like to thank my nominator and seconder and all of you for your continued support. As we step into this new term, it is my hope and my prayer that our words and actions will indeed be "On Fire with the Spirit".

It is an exciting time. We are now immersed in the second year of our Strategic Plan. Staff, support staff and students have been working diligently to improve and master math and literacy skills. Various opportunities for ongoing faith formation for staff and students, both individually and in group settings, are being offered. Seeds are being planted, nurtured and starting to grow. We are in the trenches, working toward our goals pushing past the challenges, celebrating the victories guided by the fire of the Spirit.

As we go forward, we anticipate that this next term will bring changes to our role as trustees. How that will

manifest is hard to know, but as I look around this table I am deeply grateful for the people, trustees and administration, past and present, who have worked so diligently to be good stewards of our Huron-Perth System. Years of integrating faith and education, focus and vision all the while maintaining fiscal responsibility have left us in good standing. While the role of trustees remains uncertain we can take comfort in the words of St. Teresa of Avila

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing;
God only is changeless.
Patience gains all things.
Who has God wants nothing.
God alone suffices.

Catholic education and indeed, the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, is a witness to the truth of these words. We are indebted to the men and women who serve, and have served, as champions of our system. We are grateful as well, for all of you in this room, and for every person in our employ, who brings the light of Christ into their workplace daily. As we enter into this new term may we continue to awaken, illuminate and rejoice. We have much work to do and much to be grateful for. May Our Blessed Mother and St. Andre Bessette continue to intercede for us so that God's way will illuminate our path forward. Thank you.

9. Closing Prayer - Dcn. Dan McPhee

10. Adjournment

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Jim McDade

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board adjourns the November 17, 2025 Annual Board Meeting.

Carried

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY