
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, March 23, 2026 - 3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present:

Trustees: Vice-chair Amy Cronin (presiding); Trustees Tina Doherty; Sue Muller, and Jim McDade

Board Chaplain: Deacon Daniel McPhee

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

Senior Administration: Director of Education & Secretary Karen Tigani; Superintendents of Education Tara Boreham, Sean McDade; Superintendent of Business & Treasurer Mary-Ellen Ducharme and Incoming Superintendent of Business & Treasurer Sarah Devereaux

Absent: Chair Mary Helen Van Loon

1. Opening Business

1.1. Opening Prayer & Condolences - Deacon Dan McPhee, Board Chaplain

1.2. Attendance - Noted above at start of meeting

1.3. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Agenda

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the Regular Board Meeting of March 23, 2026.

Carried

1.4. Declaration of Interest

1.5. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2026.

Carried

1.6. Business Arising from the Minutes

2. Presentations

2.1. Math Program presented by Coordinator C. Dale

Coordinator Dale presented a comprehensive vision and plan for mathematics in the Huron-Perth CDSB, strategically aligning math processing skills with the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations and foundational values. The presentation detailed the "why, what, and how" of the district's instructional approach, highlighting a standardized scope and sequence, daily number talk routines, and the use of common assessments to ensure system-wide accountability. By walking Trustees through the Math Achievement Action Plan and current provincial priorities, Coordinator Dale illustrated what a consistent, effective math block looks like across the district, ensuring that high-quality mathematics instruction remains rooted in the board's Catholic identity.

3. Delegations

4. Consent Agenda

- 4.1.** March Board Highlights
- 4.2.** Approved Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2025
- 4.3.** 2025 Public Sector Salary Disclosure Report
- 4.4.** Nutritional Management System Report
- 4.5.** 2026 Trustee Determination

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives all reports, committee minutes, and approves all motions under the consent agenda, which are:

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Board Highlights for March for information as corrected

AND

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the approved Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026

AND

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the 2025 Public Sector Salary Disclosure Report

AND

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Nutritional Management System Report

AND

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the 2026 Trustee Determination

AND

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves that there are no areas in the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board's jurisdiction designated as low population areas.

Carried

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1. Policy

5.1.1. Board Policies for Review:

- a) Modified Day (P2.2.4.)

Trustees discussed the legal and procedural framework of the policy, inquiring if it was mandated by a Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM). Superintendent Boreham clarified that while not dictated by a PPM, the policy is rooted in the Education Act and was vetted by legal counsel upon initiation. The procedure includes critical safeguards to address unconscious bias and parental hardship, utilizing a collaborative team approach involving families, administrators, and Special Education coordinators. This process ensures that any modified attendance includes clear checkpoints and Superintendent approval, with the ultimate goal of supporting the student's transition to full-day attendance.

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the following policy for review: Modified Day (P2.2.4.)

Carried

5.1.2. Board Policies Recommended for Approval/Rescinding:

- a) Concussion Management (P2.1.19.)
- b) Educational Field Trips (P2.2.3.)
- c) Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4.)

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves Policy Concussion Management (P2.1.19.), Educational Field Trips (P2.2.3.) and Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4.).

Regarding the Educational Field Trips (P2.2.3) policy, trustees discussed the significant shifts in the landscape of school outings, specifically the rising costs of trips and the limited availability of transportation. The Board discussed the difficult decisions for principals regarding the financial viability, safety, and equity of trips, particularly when facing parental pressure. While there was a suggestion to add "relevance" and "increased risk" as specific criteria for approval, it was decided that the current language includes this.

Regarding the Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4), the Board addressed the Director of Education's legislated responsibility to ensure all policies align with the Education Act, PPMs, and Ministry directives. A specific amendment was requested for the third bullet of item number six to clarify the Director's oversight. Additionally, the Director will develop a plan and guiding principles for Administrative Procedures (APs) with the possibility of linking them directly to their corresponding policies. This transition could begin during the regular review process to make guidance more accessible to the public.

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board removes Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4.) and places it as a separate consideration.

Carried

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves Policy Concussion Management (P2.1.19.) and Educational Field Trips (P2.2.3.)

Carried

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Jim McDade

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board makes the following amendment to the policy Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4.); Item number 6, third bullet to read “The Policy is within the scope of the Board’s authority as granted by provincial and federal stature with oversight by the Director of Education”.

Carried

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approve policy Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4.) with the approved amendment to Item number 6, third bullet to read “The Policy is within the scope of the Board’s authority as granted by provincial and federal stature with oversight by the Director of Education”.

Carried

5.2. Student Achievement and Catholicity

5.2.1. Artificial Intelligence Update

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Update for information.

Carried

5.2.2. Math Achievement Action Plan Update

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Jim McDade

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Math Achievement Action Plan (MAAP) Update for information.

Carried

5.2.3. Literacy Update

Director Tigani and Superintendent Boreham provided a high-level summary of the report, which currently includes system-wide figures. Trustees requested that disaggregated data be provided for future reports prior to board meetings.

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Literacy Update for information.

Carried

5.2.4. Student Trustees’ Report

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Student Trustees’ report for information.

Carried

5.3. Corporate Services and Operations

5.3.1. 2026-2027 Budget Community Consultation

Superintendent Ducharme outlined the communication plan and the framework for upcoming community consultations. During the discussion, Trustees requested a follow-up report containing hard data for their review and emphasized the importance of engaging the parish community in the survey process to gain broader insight. For future consideration, trustees recommended including a question regarding Catholic ratepayer status.

Moved by: Sue Muller

Seconded by: Jim McDade

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the 2026-2027 Budget Community Consultation Report.

Carried

5.3.2. Chromebook Purchase

During the discussion, trustees inquired whether new Chromebook models would include physical privacy sliders to protect students. Superintendent McDade confirmed that the selected model does feature a built-in camera shutter. To further ensure student safety, staff will integrate training on responsible camera use and include specific privacy expectations within the student Chromebook use agreement.

Moved by: Tina Doherty

Seconded by: Sue Muller

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the purchase of 475 chromebooks from CDW Canada at a cost of \$274,327.56.00 (including HST).

Carried

5.3.3. St. Mary's Catholic School Listowel Classroom and Child Care Centre Addition Report

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Tina Doherty

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the St. Mary's Catholic School Listowel Classroom and Child Care Centre Addition Report.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1. New Student Trustee Election results

Superintendent McDade shared the names of the newly elected student trustees for the 2026-27 school year: Ronnel Charles for St. Michael CSS and Quinn Palen for St. Anne's CSS. The new student trustees will be invited to the regular June Board meeting.

6.2. Letter from the Minister of Education - dated March 20, 2026 re: Graduation Ceremonies and Staff use of Social Media expectations.

Trustees discussed safety and protection measures. Director Tigani indicated that our graduation celebrations will continue to be about celebrating student achievement in our Catholic schools. The Director and Superintendents will discern with staff additional safety measures if deemed necessary.

7. Notices of Motion

8. Notices of Motion Being Considered for Adoption

9. Trustee Inquiries

- 9.1. Trustees inquired about Board issued printers and the cloud memory storage.
- 9.2. Trustees inquired about vape detectors for the secondary schools. Staff will look into the cost of this technology.
- 9.3. Trustees shared about the COR youth retreat taking place April 10-12 at the St. Patrick's School and church in Dublin and inquired if the board staff could assist with promoting the event.

10. In-Camera Session of the Regular Board Meeting

Moved by: Sue Muller

Seconded by: Tina Doherty

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board moves to an In-Camera Session of the Regular Board Meeting

Carried

11. Rise and Report on the In-Camera Session of the Regular Board Meeting and Approval of the Business of the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Jim McDade

Seconded by: Tina Doherty

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves all motions in the In-Camera Session of the Regular Board Meeting.

Carried

The following motion was approved:

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board approves the recommendation from the Catholic Education Team THAT Dr. Vince McDonald be inducted into The Order of St. André Bessette for 2025.

AND

the following retirements were announced:

- Tracey Roy, Educational Assistant, St. Michael CSS, Stratford, effective February 27, 2026
- Sue Salter, Teacher, St. Aloysius School, Stratford, effective June 30, 2026

12. Future Meetings and Events

- March 25, 2026 - Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting
- April 22, 2026 - Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-racism Committee meeting
- April 20, 2026 - Special Education Advisory Committee meeting
- April 27, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting
- April 30 - May 2, 2026 - OCSTA AGM & Conference

13. Closing Prayer - Deacon Dan McPhee

14. Adjournment

Moved by: Sue Muller

Seconded by: Tina Doherty
THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board adjourns the Regular Board Meeting of
March 23, 2026.
Carried

VICE-CHAIR

SECRETARY