



Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School Council
Meeting Minutes – December 16, 2025

Date: December 16, 2025

Attendees: Paul Cianciolo (Principal), Adam Mikitel (VP), Bryan DeSousa (VP), Marie O’Connell (Chaplain), Ken Flynn (Teacher Rep), Gina Rajack-Aguilar (Co-Chair), Nadia Kallu (Co-Chair), Sonia Sousa (Co-Treasurer), Neeraj Gerg (Co-Treasurer), Rukshan Jayatilake (OAPCE Rep), Stephanie Fernandes (Parish Rep), Carol Lobo, Dr. Shonna John, La Tania Burey, Nidhi Gupta, Roanna Guiang Tulloch, Jonathan So, Susan Zhang, Tania Fernandes, Nicole Lawrence, Paxwell Pereira, Lindsey Quirk, Mark H. Kluge, Jen Ciavoliello, Temitope Ajaja, Liz Holohan, Krista Chan

Students: Derek, Sandra

Regrets: Kay Loforte (Community Rep), Royston Smith (Secretary), Rajeswari Shankar, Samah Abushakra, Munazza Shams, Punita Nanda, Reyes Rey, Samar Javid, Naz Shagufta, Sonya Cavalcante, Umair Chaudhry, Ren Yumei, Charles Soares, Aliaa Derkeshli, Astha Sharma, Giancarlo De Rosa, Dimple Sequeira, Farah Khoulki, Smruti Dash, Ivette Iglesias, Sadaf Sheikh-Chaudhry, Veronica, Barbara Jancetic-Jelecanin, Ragy Sharkawy, Esterina Sharkey, Vandana Majithia, Sajid Chaudhry, Benny Coniglio

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome, Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgement	Marie started us off with the Land Acknowledgment and opening prayer.	
Approval of Agenda and Minutes	Sept 23 2025 minutes that were held last meeting were approved by Mark Kluge, seconded by Ken Flynn. Nov 25 2025 minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change “Rocco” to Principal Dilanni - Used uniform sale numbers – to be stated in order 	Chairs to send to be uploaded onto the BR Website. Chairs to amend Nov 25 minutes and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Laundry total should be at the end of the totals, minus the HST <p>Approved as amended by Mark Kluge; seconded by Jonathan So.</p> <p>Today's agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change SIP update to EQAO. <p>Today's agenda approved as amended Mark Kluge; seconded by Jonathan So.</p>	send to be uploaded to BR Website.
<p>Bishop Reding Student Reps</p> <p>Derek Sandra</p>	<p>Co-Prime Ministers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 spirit days – Festive sweater day; Green and Red Day; Christmas PJ Day coming up this week (final week before Christmas Holidays). - YOUnity hosted the Candy Grams in support of BR families. - YOUnity event, Winter Wonderland, didn't get much traction; therefore, it was cancelled this year. - Hoping to start with carnations; Valentine's Spirit Days as fundraising events in 2026. 	
<p>Principal's Report</p> <p>Paul Cianciolo</p>	<p>Late Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principal Cianciolo addressed this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chat with students who were late for Period 1 in cafeteria. It was a pleasant conversation. He said he recognizes that things happen. He gave students the opportunity to speak to him if there is a reason that they cannot help. ○ Last Thursday morning (first day of enforcing the late policy), there was standing room only in the cafeteria for students who were late (approx. 600). The number of students decreased as the days went on. Because of the drastic improvement all discussions with late students are no longer occurring each period. ○ He understands the amount of traffic in and around the school at the same time in the morning, so there was the suggestion to leave a little earlier. ○ Re: Coats – these are not allowed in the classroom. Because of this, there is a 2-minute allowance for students who are coming into the school from portables to put their coats back into their lockers. Students now have 7 minutes to attend the next class if travelling in either direction from portable to regular classroom. ○ If stuck in hallway during Oh Canada/Prayers, then all students now have 2 minutes get to get to class. ○ Concerns were heard by parents and council members and Principal Cianciolo apologized if he/his admin team they have caused the children additional stress. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Student Council Rep Perspective</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Before the method, at least 5 people late to each class. After the “late chats” started, there have been less students late for class. ○ Student indicates that late students are disruptive because the lesson must be stopped each time a student walks into class late. ○ Since the rule has been put in place, the grace period was taken for granted but now the student body is coming around to it. ○ Sitting in classroom at the beginning - the announcements, kids coming in late, etc, are now the new interruptions. - <i>Mr. Desousa (VP)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The point is to minimize the interruption in class. ○ 500 lates; 300 lates; 50 lates – as the days went on. ○ 3.5-5% late is the norm. ○ Vice Principal has said that students with extenuating circumstances are given grace. ○ In a school of our population, the lates were down to 4% by the 3rd day of the late enforcement. ○ Looking at what’s working and what’s not working. They are taking feedback form parents, teachers and students. ○ Not a new policy – just enforcing it more than previous. ○ Bathrooms are not as crowded now because admin are hustling them back to class. - <i>Parent concerns</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You would already know who your chronic late students are since it is tracked. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VP response – This gives us a good indication as there may be gaps in PowerSchool. ○ Other periods when students have to go from portable to classroom, in winter, too many people in hallway, etc. The lecture for being late is taking even more time away from class/learning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VP response – they should be given extra grace and the teachers know this, but if there continues to be an issue, please reach out to Principal/VP. ○ Concerned that students will be held for an entire period if they are late on Monday. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VP and Principal response – we will not be doing this forever; and we will not hold the students for an entire period. Adjustments were made for students to get to their classes on time. ○ Negative things and heightened anxiety amongst some students. Concern is that punishment is not fitting the “crime”. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VP and Principal response – this is good feedback and the admin team will take this into account. ○ Blanketed approach for all students (vs targeted approach) – you’ve made it the student’s problem, but they’re already stressed out because of schoolwork, but now because of the late policy, it’s causing more stress. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VP and Principal response – this is good feedback and the admin team will take this into account. ○ One parent happy about the extended grace period and thanked admin for this. - <i>Staff Perspective</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Even if kids were coming in late after prayer, there was no hustle. Since the enforcement of the policy, they are walking with more of a purpose. <p>Ray-Ban Meta Glasses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will be asked to take these off during a test/exam/culminating, due to concerns of them taking photos of tests/exams and sharing it with fellow students. <p>EQAO Data 2024-2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grade 9 Math – 535 BR students participated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 54% at level 3 – Province avg is 48% ○ 12% at level 4 – highest in Province ○ 3.7% level 1; 30.1% level 2 - Fewer AP students this year due to St. Kateri offering AP at their school - Strands and Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BR doing well compared to the Board and the Province - Plans in place to get the level 1 & 2 students to level 3 and address the downward trend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consultant Support coming next semester for grade 9s to help address some of these issues. ○ This ties in with the School Improvement Plan. ○ Last PA Day there was an emphasis on Collaboration amongst teachers. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Last 2 summers – numbers numeracy course offered (4 half day sessions) in another local school and BR looking to offer something similar. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Province also has plans to address these numbers. These plans have not yet been released by the government. - How do students with IEPs fit into the plans? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The consultants and all mathematics teachers will assist with this. ○ Work with students with IEPs – teachers are working with them. If there is an issue, please connect with the admin team. <p>OSSLT Update – Mr. Desousa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ontario Literacy Courses after school, including practice tests. - Data not out for this yet. - Trying to build up our results for students who are already here and those who are entering the school. <p>Update on Teacher Vacancies – Mr. Cianciolo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HR has informed Principal that they have done a lot of hiring lately to replenish their roster. - There are a few classes without a teacher since September. This has been rectified. - Vacancies due to parenting leaves coming up but HR has assured Principal Cianciolo that they have replenished the occasional teacher roster. - Department Heads should be following up and tracking what material the students should be getting when there is no assigned teacher. Principal Cianciolo will personally follow up on this. <p>Yearbook Update – Mr. Cianciolo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principal and VP noted that there are concerns with the delays with the Yearbooks. Unfortunately, they will not be ready for Christmas. <p>SGF – Mr. Cianciolo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$660K+ in SGF right now. - School Council has \$46K+ – this should be spent by June 2026. 	
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- The reason of these high amounts, for eg Athletic Fees – money has been collected, but will be paid out by the end of the year for fees, tournaments, etc. Also, it's money that has accumulated over the years that has not been spent.
- Clubs/Departments have been asked to start spending money.
- Trip Permission Form – newly implemented by Principal Cianciolo, will subsidize some of the school trips.
- Council to start thinking about how we can support the school using SGF.
- *New Rule in Sept 2026* – schools are allowed to have an SGF account balance based on # of students in the school X \$100.
- The Superintendent has also been involved in these spending discussions. By Feb 2026 (approx.) we may be given a list of things to possibly spend on.

Principal Position Update

- Principal Cianciolo does not know when his last day is but cannot work past end of Jan 2026 due to pension rules.
- Principal Cianciolo does not have any updates on the Principal position.

Grad Update – Mr. Mikitzel

- Looked at different venues i.e. Hamilton Convention Centre – it's smaller than Velodrome. Paramount Centre, their only available date was on a PA Day (not allowed to have grad on a PA Day).
- Grad will be on **Tues June 23 2026 at 3pm at the Velodrome**. There will be a Livestream available for those who cannot attend.
- Each family can get 3 tickets per family. There might not be room for any more allowances, but there will be an update about this should more seating become available.
- Velodrome Upper and lower bowl – families will not be separated this yr as they were in the past.
- Approx 700 graduates this year. Approx 760 next year.
- Shuttle busses will be running every 5 to 10 mins to and from the Velodrome. SFX has graciously allowed us to use their parking lot in past. Pick up location will be confirmed for this year.
- Next year, there will be more graduates, and admin has already been looking at bigger venues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent Concern: Need to address time that last bus is leaving venue as it left people stranded last year. More time needs to be allotted more time to take photos and find their bus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Admin will look into this. 	
Co-Chairs Report Nadia Kallu Gina Rajack-Aguilar	By Laws Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We formed the by-law committee - thank you to those who generously offered to join. - Mr. Cianciolo has provided existing BR Bylaws that were in use v1.9 St. Anne Catholic School Council (dated October 7th, 2019) which we will review. - The document will be sent out to the committee electronically for review, and then the committee will meet online to discuss the proposed tracked changes. - The committee will also agree on a timeline for the Bylaws to be completed and update the Council members at subsequent meetings. 	
Chaplain's Report Marie O'Connell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advent Mass happened on the day that the busses weren't running. They had 1 mass rather than 2. - Boxes of Hope for residents at Allendale. We have a lot of donated items to fill the boxes. - Jan 2026 – start with exam and culminating stress prayer opportunities for students. - Therapy Dog that comes in every Friday to help the students de-stress. 	
Teacher's Report Ken Flynn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Academic Awards Nov 27th – went off without a hitch. Great way to celebrate the kids and their achievements. - SHSM Day Dec 8th for Grade 10 students. Students would cycle through presentations from leads of SHSM. - Pathways Presentations Dec 3-4 – talked about different pathways from grade 10 onwards. - Option Sheets presentations coming up in early Feb. - Course Changes for this coming semester. These forms will be opened soon, and this closes Feb 6th. Level changes can still happen after this date. 	
Parish Rep Updates	Holy Rosary Parish and St. Benedict Parish	

Stephanie Fernandes	<p>The Christmas Mass schedule is available on both parish websites. In addition, St. Benedict Parish will be hosting its annual Christmas Children’s Party on Sunday, December 21 from 1:30-4:30pm. More details and registration information are available on the parish website.</p> <p>Additional information can be found on each of the Parish Websites.</p>	
Other Business	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treasurers to have a conversation with Principal 2 weeks before the next meeting to get updates. <p>Charitable Funding Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council members were sent the form in advance of the meeting. - If anyone has any suggested changes, please email co-chairs by the end of this week. - Principal Cianciolo will start sending the form out to leads of Clubs and Departments next week. 	
Next Meeting	February 10, 2026 at 6:30pm	
Closing Prayer	Marie O’Connell lead us in a closing prayer.	
Adjournment	8:30 PM	