



## Elementary/Secondary Pathways Task Force Meeting

**Date:** January 31, 2012  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Catholic Education Centre, Board Room  
**Next Meeting:** April 12, 2012

**Attendees:**

**Committee Members:**

Janek Jagiellowicz (Co-chair); Wendy Price; Greg Reitzel

**Administrative Officials:**

Roger Lawler; Rick Boisvert (Co-chair); Shesh Maharaj; Paul Tratnyek; John Dietrich; Paul Lacalamita; Sherry Peeples, Mike Sitko; Paul Smith; Chris Woodcroft

- 
- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. Welcome and Opening Prayer  | Janek/Rick |
| 2. Approval of Agenda  |            |
| 3. Declared Pecuniary Interest   |            |
| 4. Approval of the Minutes<br>Meeting of November 24, 2011                           |            |
| 5. Discussion Items  |            |
| 5.1 Review Elementary to Secondary Draft Recommendation                              | All        |
| 5.2 Using school-entry data, Identify Recommendations                                | All        |
| 5.3 Identify next steps and issues for consideration/discussion for future direction | All        |
| 6. Pending Items   |            |
| 7. Adjournment   |            |

## Transition to Secondary Committee Meeting

**Present:**

**Committee Members:**

Mike Sitko, Paul Lacalamita, John Dietrich, Chris Woodcroft, Roger Lawler, Greg Reitzel, Sherry Peeples, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Smith, Wendy Price

**Administrative Officials:**

Rick Boisvert, Janek Jagiellowicz,

**Regrets:**

**Next Meeting:** January 31, 2012

---

**1. Welcome and Opening Prayer:**

Meeting started at 5:40 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**3. Declared Pecuniary Interests**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**5. Discussion Items**

5.1 Student Transition Survey results presented to committee member for information and discussion.

5.2 Small group work to develop recommendations for Elementary - Secondary School transitions  
Synthesis of ideas was completed for direction to organize and develop draft recommendations for consideration.

5.3 Elementary School transitions data:

- Elementary school data including: historic admission, transfer trends by school and by Family of Schools was presented.
- Kindergarten Parent survey results for 2008 and 2010.
- Committee to review data and develop recommendations to address attraction to WCDSB parents during registration.

**Next Steps: (January 31, 2012)**

*Next Agenda*

- Review draft Elementary- Secondary transitions committee recommendations.
- Identify priority areas for consideration to develop draft recommendations for attraction strategies to WCDSB schools during registration.
- Identify committee's next steps – priorities.

**6. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

# WATERLOO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## Pathways/Transitions Committee Recommendations

(Draft)

### Elementary to Secondary Transition

1. Establish within the Family of Schools structure a formal process where secondary school administrators meet with elementary school administrators to develop and implement an elementary site-specific retention plan comprised of the following components:
  - a. Multi-layered approach to inform students and parents about the Catholic Secondary School that they would attend;
  - b. *'Multi-layered, customized'* approach to inform students and parents with specific information about the Catholic Secondary School that they would attend that is unique and appropriate to each elementary school;
  - c. Use of secondary school student ambassadors and Catholic School Councils to support the promotion of Catholic Secondary Schools and the attraction of elementary students.
2. In partnership with the Deanery, re-evaluate the formal process used in parishes to promote Catholic education and local Catholic Schools. It is important that the following components are addressed:
  - a. Individualized plan between the System and the Deanery to promote Catholic Education with Waterloo Region;
  - b. Individualized plan between parishes and schools to promote communication and activities between schools and parish;
  - c. Identify the role and the involvement of Trustees and Staff to support communication and consultation with Parishes.
3. Through a system level strategy, pursue contracting with an outside consultant to review and enhance the proclaiming/marketing strategy being used by the Board to attract students to attend Catholic elementary schools and Catholic secondary schools.
4. Review the current internal approach to proclaiming/marketing of Catholic schools in order to incorporate the following component:
  - a. Use of data to capture trends over time of retention and attraction to specific schools;
  - b. Proactive use of Social Media as a strategy to reach and inform elementary students;
  - c. Proactive strategy to attract at an early stage families and students to our schools. Remembering to start early - well in advance of a child's decision regarding which school to attend; starting the engagement process in Grade 4 to assist in selection of secondary schools;
  - d. An understanding of the influence of students in the decision of Secondary School Selection.
5. Investigate the options and possibility of other program choices and the benefit and detriments i.e. magnet schools, IB, Agricultural.
6. Use of K-12 Board structure to provide a seamless and enduring approach to providing academic program and support to students who attend the WCDSB for elementary and secondary schooling.