

Committee of the Whole Meeting

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, June 15, 2009 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:

Wayne Buchholtz; Manuel da Silva; Louise Ervin; Joseph Gowing; Judy Nairn; Greg Reitzel; Marion Thomson Howell (Chair)

Student Trustees Present:

Alex Chmura; Thomas Slabon

Administrative Officials Present:

Roger Lawler; Rick Boisvert; Gerry Clifford; Heather Cullen; Bryan Mahn; Shesh Maharaj; Bruce Rodrigues; Glenn Sheculski

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Dave Bennett

Regrets:

Denise Blum; Fr. Robert Héту

Recording Secretary:

Barb Pilsner, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 5.7 all Board decisions made by consensus are deemed the equivalent of a unanimous vote. A consensus decision is therefore deemed to be a vote of 9-0. Under Board by-law 5.11 every Trustee "shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote" and abstentions are not permitted.

1. *Call to Order:*

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 -- **Opening Prayer & Memorials**

The opening prayer was led by Pastoral Care Team. Intentions were offered for: all mothers and fathers. The Chair welcomed Nicole Bigelow the new student trustee for 2009-2010.

1.2 -- **Approval of Agenda**

Remove Item 9.1.1 a) Nutrition Policy for 2009 onward and b) The Arts and the 2009-2010 Budget. Item 11 Announcements will be presented prior to the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees.

2009-80 - It was *moved* by **J. Gowing** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:
THAT the agenda for June 15, 2009 as amended be now approved. -- Carried by consensus.

1.3 -- **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

1.3.1 From the current meeting:

J. Nairn declared pecuniary interest with Motion A and W. Buchholtz, L. Ervin, M. Thomson Howell declared indirect pecuniary interest with Motion B

1.3.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education

NIL

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

- 3.1.1 Minutes of Meeting of May 19, 2009
- 3.1.2 Items for Action from Previous Meeting
- 3.1.3 Minutes of Task Force on ...

2009-81 -- It was *moved* by **J. Nairn** and *seconded* by **L. Ervin**:

THAT the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved. -- Carried by consensus.

4. Delegations/Presentations

4.1 Alba Ruiz – declined her delegation

4.2 Connie Snofi

Connie requested the St. Paul/St. Mark boundaries remain as they are currently and not be changed. She doesn't feel the enrolment needs to be balanced between St. Mark and St. Paul. Families will be driving their children which is not environmentally friendly. Families may choose to send their children to the closer public school. Also daycare was arranged knowing it was within the boundary which will change as boundaries change. She is hoping they will consider waiting for a long term solution.

4.3 Paul Laurie – joint presentation with another delegate.

4.4 Leonard Fortier

Leonard has a daughter with special needs that would not be accommodated currently at St. John's. It will need upgrades to provide accessibility. Feels unless St. John's is fully accessible Monsignor Gleason should not be closed.

4.5 Sarah Banic

Sarah a student currently enrolled at Monsignor Gleason presented reasons to keep Monsignor Gleason open – playground, good teachers, friendships developed and accessibility for students with special needs i.e. braces.

4.6 Jennifer Shousterman (for Roger Suffling)

Jennifer presented on behalf of Roger Suffling who was not able to attend the meeting. Second submission in response to questions on enrolment and innovative use of school buildings asked by trustees at May 25th meeting. The presentation cited the Ontario Governments' Planning and Possibilities: *The Report of the Declining Enrolment Working Group* which urges innovative and cooperative educational initiatives by school boards facing closure issue.

4.7 Denis Beaulieu

Denis combined his presentation with Paul Laurie, who was not able to attend, in support of keeping Monsignor Gleason open. Residents in the neighbourhood signed letters of support to keep Monsignor Gleason open. Enrolment at St. John's is less than half capacity while Monsignor Gleason is just slightly below capacity. Cited the seven newest schools are currently over capacity and feels the capacity may not be set accurately and are over utilized. Feels the demographics are changing and projected enrolment may not be accurate.

Trustees asked questions of the delegates and senior administration. The Director reported we have over 70 partnerships currently utilizing our schools.

5. Ownership Linkage

5.1

6. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

6.1 Awards Committee Terms of Reference

Manuel presented the updated Awards Committee terms of reference.

2009-82 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **W. Buchholtz**:

THAT the Board of Trustees accepts the Awards Committee Terms of Reference to be presented for approval at the June 22nd Board of Trustees meeting. -- Carried by consensus.

7. Board Education

Trustees asked questions of clarification on the following policies approved at the May 25th Board of Trustee meeting.

7.1 Board Policy II 011, Student Representation

7.2 Board Policy II 012, Student Trustee Role

There will be regularly scheduled reports from the student trustees in 2009-2010.

7.3 Board Policy III 001 Global Governance-Management

7.4 Board Policy IV 001 General Executive Limitation

7.5 Board Policy IV 010 Accommodations

8. Policy Discussion

8.1

9. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

9.1 – Monitoring Reports & Votes on Compliance

9.1.1 2009-2010 School Year Budget

a) Nutrition Policy for 2009 onward – removed from agenda

b) The Arts and the 2009-2010 Budget – removed from agenda

c) Trustee Questions of Clarification on the Budget

The Chair opened the floor to questions. Trustees discussed breaking out the budget motions further to allow trustees to vote on a greater portion of the budget without having to declare pecuniary interest. The director presented different methods of breaking out the budget into separate motions and explained all portions that may have a potential conflict of interest are put into one motion. It is not the role of staff to tell trustees they have a conflict of interest but up to the trustee to self declare.

Trustees agreed by consensus to allow M. Thomson Howell to continue as the Chair while asking her questions.

2009-83 --It is *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **W. Buchholtz**:

THAT the Board of Trustees extend the meeting by 30 minutes – All in consensus

The meeting was extended at 8:58 p.m.

Trustees continued their discussions and questions on each section of the budget.

2009-84 It was *moved* **J. Gowing** and *seconded* **M. da Silva**

THAT the Board of Trustees move to an in-camera meeting – All in consensus

The meeting moved to an in-camera session at 9:19 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:24 p.m. following the in-camera session.

9.2 – Challenges to Monitoring

NIL

9.3 – Advice from the CEO

NIL

9.4 – New Operational Worries

NIL

9.5 – Next Monitoring Assignment

NIL

10. *Board Self-Assessment Against Board Means Policies*

NIL

11. *Announcements*

The Chair reported at a news conference held at St. John’s school today the Ministry of Education announced the \$6.6 million WCDSB application for repairs associated with St. John’s school has been approved pending the decision of the accommodation review on June 22nd.

11.1 – The following reports are posted on the Board web page: www.wcdsb.ca

- a) Minutes of SEAC Meetings
- b) Minutes of Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

11.2 – Upcoming Meetings/Events: (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

12. *Items For Next Meeting Agenda*

13. *Adjournment – confirm decisions made tonight*

The recording secretary reviewed the decisions made tonight.

14. *Motion to Adjourn*

2009-85 -- It was *moved* by **J. Gowing** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:29 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary