

Regular Public Board Meeting

A regular public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, February 23, 2009 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:

Denise Blum; Wayne Buchholtz; Manuel da Silva; Joseph Gowing; Fr. Robert Hétu; Judy Nairn; Greg Reitzel; Marion Thomson Howell (Chair)

Student Trustees Present:

Alex Chmura

Administrative Officials Present:

Roger Lawler; Gerry Clifford; Bryan Mahn; Helen Mitchell; Bruce Rodrigues; Glenn Sheculski; John Shewchuk

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Dave Bennett, Lindsay Reinhardt

Regrets:

Rick Boisvert; Heather Cullen; Louise Ervin; Thomas Slabon

Recorder:

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 M. da Silva. Intentions were offered for: Denise's friend's father; Louis Pfeifer; Rick Boisvert's father; Manuel's friend at the nursing home.

1.2 -- **Approval of Agenda**

Move Item 7.2 to follow Item 3 Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees; defer Item 7.1 to a future meeting and remove Item 7.3 from the agenda.

2009-16 It was *moved* by **W. Buchholtz** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:
THAT the agenda for February 23, 2009 as amended be now approved. -- **Carried by consensus.**

1.3 -- **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

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

2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

- 3.1.1 **Minutes of Meeting of January 26, 2009**
- 3.1.2 **Items for Action from Previous Meeting February 23, 2009**
- 3.1.3 **Minutes of Governance Meeting of**
- 3.1.4 **Minutes of Vision of Inclusion Meeting**

2009-17 It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:

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

4. Delegations/Presentations

4.1 Simon Talbot – Kitchener Accommodation Review

Parent Simon Talbot addressed the trustees regarding the accommodation review. He stated there will be very little residential development in the future for their community. He asked the trustees to defer the decision until 2010 to allow families time to prepare for the change. Trustees asked questions.

4.2 Jim Duff – Kitchener Accommodation Review

Parent Jim Duff addressed the trustees regarding the accommodation review. He asked the trustees to defer the decision for one to two years to allow for planning with the least disruption to families. He felt projections may not happen in this current economic climate. Trustees asked questions.

4.3 Eric Johnson – Kitchener Accommodation Review

Parent Eric Johnson, representing St. Timothy's school council, addressed the trustees regarding the accommodation review. He felt parents didn't realize what accommodation review actually meant when the Board sent out a letter and was asking for plain language when informing parents in future. He suggested a different boundary be determined this school year and allow parents the choice to have their children stay until graduation providing their own transportation. Trustees asked questions.

The meeting was recessed at 7:38 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

5. Ownership Linkage

5.1 Request from parent, Terry Bordman for letter of support re: children with diabetes – discussion (Manuel)

M da Silva received a request from Terry Bordman asking our board to provide for a letter of support in favour of the private members bill for children with diabetes to receive certain monitoring and treatment. Currently it is the responsibility of the parents and students for diabetes management. Trustees discussed concerns.

Trustees are in agreement the Chair will draft a letter (cc local MPPs) on behalf of the Board outlining concerns, stating complications with current contracts and suggest finding solutions that draw in other supports (through an official body) that don't involve our teachers. The letter should also address that there are other medical issues beyond diabetes.

6. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

6.1 Terms of Reference for Board Audit Committee (pp 7-9)

Trustees discussed the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee and concerns. The trustees were in agreement to remove the third bullet from the Terms of Reference. The audit committee will seek legal advice, research the definition of 'arms length' and how other organizations handle the supervision of the internal audit officer. The audit committee will report back to the board on March 30th.

7. Board Education

7.1 Long Term Financing Bylaw (deferred to another meeting)

7.2 Southwest Kitchener Accommodation Review (pp 10-33) Dave Bennett info for decision on Mar 30

Dave Bennett and Lindsay Reinhardt presented the final report of the southwest accommodation review outlining the process, preferred option and recommendations. A decision is to be made at the Board of Trustees meeting March 30th. Enrolment is declining in several schools while others have portables or are not at capacity. Growth is not evenly distributed – but is concentrated at John Sweeney, Our Lady Grace and St. Timothy.

A newsletter was sent to all of the parents in the six schools in the fall with information on the accommodation review and advertising the public open houses December 9th and 10th.

The Southwest Kitchener Accommodation Review Committee recommends the following to the Board of Trustees:

- That effective September 2009, the boundaries for St. Timothy Blessed Kateri, John Sweeney, Our Lady of Grace and Blessed Sacrament be modified in accordance with Phase 1 of the Preferred Option;
- Consider a grand-parenting provision to allow students entering grade 8 in September 2009 to finish their elementary schooling at their existing school – recognizing that no transportation would be provided;
- The Board administration monitor enrolment at Blessed Kateri, Our Lady of Grace and Blessed Sacrament to determine the appropriate timing for the implementation of Phase 2;
- That the Board proceed with the construction of a 138 pupil (6 classroom) addition to John Sweeney
- That administration proceed with the acquisition of a school site in Huron Community;
- That a new school in the Huron Community be built at such time as enrolment warrants, subject to Ministry approval for construction funding.

7.3 How Do We as a Board Respond to Delegations – removed from agenda

8. Policy Discussion

NIL

9. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

9.1 – Monitoring Reports & Votes on Compliance

9.1.1 – Board Policy IV 009 – “Asset Protection” (pp 34-57)

Trustees discussed questions from monitoring worksheet.

2009-18 It was *moved* by **W. Buchholtz** and *seconded* by **M. da Silva**:

THAT the meeting be extended by 15 minutes.

The meeting was extended at 9:02 p.m.

2009-19 It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **D. Blum**:

*THAT the Board of Trustees will table the motion for one month to get further direction from Sue Stratton and will report back at the March 30th meeting. --- **Carried by consensus***

9.2 – Challenges to Monitoring

NIL

9.3 – Advice from the CEO

NIL

9.4 – New Operational Worries

NIL

9.5 – Next Monitoring Assignment

9.5.1 Board Policy IV 012 “Communication and Support to the Board”

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

NIL

11. *Announcements*

11.1 – Reports Posted on Web Site

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

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

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

- 11.2.1 March 2nd at 6 p.m. Audit Committee
- 11.2.2 March 4th at 10:30 a.m. Board office mass and reception for Helen Mitchell
- 11.2.3 March 4th at 7 p.m. SEAC
- 11.2.4 March 9th at 5:30 p.m. Committee Meetings
- 11.2.5 March 23rd at 6 p.m. Committee of the Whole
- 11.2.6 March 25th at 4:30 p.m. Visioning Session – St. Benedict
- 11.2.7 March 26th at 4:30 p.m. Visioning Session – Msgr. Doyle
- 11.2.8 March 27th 9:00 a.m. Board office Mass
- 11.2.9 March 30th at 6 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

11.3 -- Pending Items:

- 11.3.1 Board Leadership
- 11.3.2 Board Policy IV 008 – definition of “current budget”
- 11.3.3 Board Policy IV 004 – provision #6
- 11.3.4 Review of clerical support to the Board (June 2009)
- 11.3.5 Terms of Reference for Awards Committee
- 11.3.6 Procurement Policies related to Social Justice issues
- 11.3.7 SEAC and statement on inclusion (June 2009)
- 11.3.8 Declining Enrolment Report (June 2009)
- 11.3.9 Audit Committee Mandate (June 2009)

12. Items for Next Meeting Agenda

13. Adjournment – confirm decisions made tonight

The Recorder of the Board reviewed the meeting decisions.

14. Motion to Adjourn

2009-20 It was *moved* by **M. da Silva:**
THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:14 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary