

Board of Trustees' Board Meeting

A public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, November 30, 2009 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:

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

*arrived at 6:30 pm.

Student Trustees Present:

Nicole Bigelow; Thomas Slabon

Administrative Officials Present:

Roger Lawler; Rick Boisvert; Gerry Clifford; Heather Cullen; Manny Figueiredo; Shesh Maharaj; Bruce Rodrigues; Paul Tratnyek

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

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 5:59 p.m.

1.1 -- Opening Prayer & Memorials

The opening prayer was led by Pastoral Care team. Intentions were offered for: the mother of M. da Silva's colleague who passed away, Fr. R. Héту's brother, L. Ervin's cousin, M. Figueiredo and G. Clifford's mothers, and keep those around the table in your prayers.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Add Item 5.1 Our Lady of Fatima – 50th Anniversary

2009-147 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **D. Blum**:

THAT the agenda for November 30, 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 – L. Ervin declared indirect pecuniary interest to Item 10.2.1

2. *Consent Agenda: Director of Education*

2.1 Update on Implementation of Early – moved to Item 10.2.2

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

- 3.1.1 Minutes of Meeting of October 26, 2009
- 3.1.2 Minutes of Special Board Meeting of November 9, 2009
- 3.1.3 Minutes of Special Board Meeting of November 23, 2009
- 3.1.4 Items for Action from Previous Meeting November 30, 2009
- 3.1.5 Staff Report for period November 30, 2009

2009-148 -- It was *moved* by **J. Nairn** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

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

4. Delegations/Presentations

4.1 Presentation from Resurrection Family of Schools

G. Clifford introduced Pam Garbutt, principal, and a family from St. John's to speak about the Virtual Y program. Officials from the Virtual Y were also present to provide further information.

P. Garbutt spoke about the impact the Virtual Y program has had on students at St. John's. St. John's, now in their 3rd year, was the first to host the Virtual Y in the region. The program was designed to enhance the learning outcomes of the students. There are 40 free spaces for the students giving them an opportunity for literacy building.

Both brothers loved being in the program. They especially enjoyed the club days and the help they received to complete their homework. Their parents spoke about the improvements in attentiveness. They have seen their sons grow academically and socially and felt the Virtual Y offered a wonderful opportunity for improved learning..

The philosophy of the Virtual YMCA is taking their mission and values into a school where students would not be able to access their facility. They focus on oral literacy, language, social skills, physical health and why it is important to be caring and give back. Their main funding comes from the community and the balance from the YMCA's operations.

Trustees had an opportunity to ask questions. M. Thomson Howell thanked our guests.

5. Ownership Linkage

5.1 Our Lady of Fatima – 50 Anniversary

M. da Silva brought a plaque created by Danka Gocova which was presented to the Board of Trustees in gratitude for their support to Our Lady of Fatima.

6. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

6.1 Governance Committee Meeting of November 4, 2009

J. Nairn – nothing further to report.

6.2 Audit Committee Meeting of November 9, 2009

S. Maharaj – nothing further to add.

2009-149 -- It was *moved* by **L. Ervin** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**

*THAT the Board of Trustees accept the recommendations of the Audit Committee that the June Estimates budget be used to monitor financial activities through the year. --***Carried by consensus**

6.3 Vision of Inclusion Meeting of November 9, 2009

Fr. R. Héту asked trustees to send their completed worksheets from the presentation on the history of inclusion.

6.4 Consultation Meeting of November 9 2009

W. Buchholtz – minutes will be available for the next board meeting.

6.5 Awards

6.6 Pastoral Care Team Meeting of November 4, 2009

D. Blum – nothing further to report.

6.7 Trustee Budget – Update

6.8 Parent Involvement Committee Report

6.9 Student Trustee Report

T. Slabon updated the trustees that they are finding opportunities to engage students in smaller groups giving them more time for dialogue. They are also looking into web advertising on the home page of every school website and are working with Darcy Davis our webmaster on the possibility of a WCDSB webpage.

N. Bigelow has met with student council presidents and reported on the plans for their major project the film festival. The student trustees are looking at different venues and are meeting with someone experienced in organizing a film festival. They are hoping to reach out to a number of classes who create films.

6.10 Advocacy

J. Nairn and J. Gowing, at the request of the board, provided their suggestions for a plan to advocate with our partners. Trustees discussed the proposal. J. Nairn and J. Gowing will identify issues discussed and bring back to the Committee of the Whole for a decision in January with a completion date before the end of June.

7. Board Education

8. Policy Discussion

8.1 Board Policy II 014 Trustee Expenses

Trustees discussed the changes to Policy II 014.

2009-150 -- It was *moved* by **J. Nairn** and *seconded* by **W. Buchholtz**:

THAT the Board of Trustees accept the amended Policy II 014 Trustee Expenses without attaching Appendix A. --
Carried by consensus

9. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

9.1 Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising

2009-151 -- It was *moved* by **L. Ervin** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

*THAT the Board of Trustees accept Policy II 004 monitoring report. --***Carried by consensus**

10. Board Self-Assessment Against Board Means Policies

10.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance

10.1.1 Board Policy IV 003 Treatment of Students

2009-152 -- It was *moved* by **W. Buchholtz** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:

*THAT the Board of Trustees accepts the report on Policy IV 003 Treatment of Students but finds the interpretation unreasonable due to an incomplete operational definition and lack of rationale and instructs the CEO to revisit the interpretation in the next rotation of scheduled reporting. --***Carried by consensus**

10.1.2 Board Policy IV 002 Treatment of the Public

2009-153 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **Fr. R. Héту**:

*THAT the Board of Trustees remand the report on Policy IV 002 Treatment of the Public to the CEO for revised interpretation and rationale to be re-monitored on March 29, 2010. --***Carried by consensus**

10.1.3 Treatment of Staff Plan

R. Lawler advised there will be further information on the report at the December 14th board meeting. *The Board of Trustees agreed to defer decision on the treatment of staff plan until December 14th.*

10.1.4 Board Policy IV 007 Financial Planning/Budgeting

2009-154 -- It was *moved* by **Fr. R. Héту** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

THAT the Board of Trustees accepts the report on Policy IV 007 Financial Planning/Budgeting but finds the interpretation unreasonable due to an incomplete operational definition and lack of rationale and instructs the CEO to revisit the interpretation at February board meeting, 2010. --Carried by consensus

10.2 Advice from the CEO

10.2.1 Name for Grand River South School

R. Lawler reported on the short list of names chosen for the new school by a committee consisting of the Director of Education, the Spiritual Animator, the school Principal, the school Superintendent and Senior Manager of Public Affairs.

The Board of Trustees will make their decision at the December 14th meeting.

10.2.2 Update on Implementation of Early Learning

Trustees were advised the Ministry has the final approval for which schools will implement the Early Learning Program in September 2010.

11. *Potential Agenda Items*

11.1 Remembrance Day Ceremonies

Trustees discussed the Remembrance Day ceremonies held at the schools. The Director reported there is a recommendation each school plan appropriate curriculum activities.

11.2 Alternative Education

W. Buchholtz has attended several SALEPs recently and he reporting our staff work hard to provide students with what they need to continue to be successful in school. The number of SALEPs have increased since the Ministry mandated students must stay in school until age 18. Students must be 18 to attend St. Louis Adult Learning Centre. Trustees in agreement they would like to have further discussion and this will be added to the agenda of an upcoming meeting.

12. *Announcements*

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

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

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

- 12.2.1 December 2 at 6 p.m. Governance Committee
- 12.2.2 December 2 at 7 p.m. SEAC
- 12.2.3 December 7 Board Meeting at 7 p.m. to elect chair and Vice-chair
- 12.2.4 December 8 at 6 p.m. Audit Committee
- 12.2.5 Dec 14 at 6 p.m. Regular Board Meeting
- 12.2.6 December 16 at 6 p.m. PIC
- 12.2.7 December 18 at 10 a.m. Board Office Mass
- 12.2.8 December 19 – January 3 Christmas Break

12.3 – Pending Items:

- 12.3.1 Board Leadership
- 12.3.2 Board Policy IV 008 – definition of current budget
- 12.3.3 Procurement Policies related to Social Justice issues
- 12.3.4 SEAC and statement on inclusion
- 12.3.5 Continuing Education
- 12.3.6 Declining Enrolment Report
- 12.3.7 St. John Building Condition
- 12.3.8 Monsignor Gleason – surplus to board need

13. Items For Next Meeting Agenda

- 13.1 Board Policy II 005 Consultation
- 13.2 Board Policy IV 004 Treatment of Staff
- 13.3 Board Policy IV 006 Compensation
- 13.4 Board Policy IV 008 Financial Condition & Activities

14. Adjournment – confirm decisions made tonight

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

15. Motion to Adjourn

2009-155 -- It was *moved* by **J. Gowing** and *seconded* by **Fr. R. Héту:**
THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:54 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary