Committee of the Whole Board Meeting -- Public

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole Board was held on Monday, February 17, 2009 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:
Marion Thomson Howell (Chair); Denise Blum; Wayne Buchholz; Manuel da Silva; Louise Ervin*; Judy Nairn; Greg Reitzel

Student Trustees Present:
Alex Chmura; Thomas Slabon

Administrative Officials Present:
Roger Lawler; Rick Boisvert; Gerry Clifford; Bryan Mahn; Bruce Rodrigues; Glenn Sheculski

* L. Ervin left at 7:20 p.m.

Special Resources:
NIL

Regrets: Heather Cullen; Joseph Gowing; Fr. Robert Hétu; Helen Mitchell

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 6:55 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials
The opening prayer was led by T. Slabon. Intentions were offered for: Roger’s father-in-law and niece, Louise’s niece’s newborn.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

2009-12 It was moved by W. Buchholtz and seconded by L. Ervin:
THAT the agenda for February 17, 2009 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

NIL
3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees

3.1. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings
3.1.1 – Minutes of Meeting of January 19, 2009 (pp. 1-3)
3.1.2 – Items for Action from previous meeting – NIL
3.1.3 -- Minutes of the Task Force on Catholic Education – NIL

2009-13 It was moved by D. Blum and seconded by M. da Silva: THAT the Board of Trustees Consent Agenda be now approved. -- Carried by consensus.

4. Delegations:

NIL

5. Ownership Linkage

NIL

6. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

6.1 Vision of Inclusion – Presentation on Inclusion

J. Nairn reported the Vision of Inclusion committee will ask Trustees to complete a summary for each presentation to the board on inclusion. The presentations will be compiled by the Vision of Inclusion committee and brought back to the board.

Jonathan Wright gave the trustees a presentation on inclusion encouraging communities of inclusion and belonging for students with Autism and a need to recognize that all persons have dignity. When these students participate in the community they reach their full potential and the community reaches its full potential.

People with autism live in a spectrum of experience. It doesn’t define any one of them but what defines them is their interaction with the community. Students with Autism have difficulties with communication. Sensory processing of the world around them can be difficult but they can articulate what is upsetting.

Trustees asked questions. There was further discussion around inclusion (what does it look like), the challenges and the ability to recognize the gift and talents that everyone have. Trustees asked Jonathan to provide them with a list of resources around inclusion.

7. Board Education

7.1 Procurement Policies Related to Social Justice Issues

Trustees discussed procurement policies related to social justice issues. Trustees agreed Secretary will ask Jeff Admans to come to Committee of the Whole to discuss the issues.

8. Policy Discussion

8.1 Terms of Reference for Awards Committee (Board Policy II 006)

Trustees discussed policy and the decision to strike a task force to complete the work and report back to the Board in March.

2009-14 It was moved by G. Reitzel and seconded by M. da Silva: That a task force be struck to address Policy II 006 Celebration of Excellence. M. da Silva, W. Buchholtz and A. Chmura expressed an interest to be on the task force. – carried by consensus.
9. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

9.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance
NIL

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

11.1 The following reports are posted on the Board web page: www.wcdsb.ca
a) Minutes of SEAC meeting
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

Governance presentation parliamentary procedure
Task force on policy II 006

13. Adjournment Confirm decisions made tonight

The Recorder of the Board reviewed the meeting decisions.

14. Motion to Adjourn

2009-15-- It was moved by M. da Silva:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned -- Carried by consensus

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.