Committee of the Whole Meeting

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, October 19, 2009 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:
Denise Blum; Wayne Buchholtz; *Manuel da Silva; Louise Ervin; Joseph Gowing; Fr. Robert Hétu; Judy Nairn; Greg Reitzel; Marion Thomson Howell (Chair)
*arrived at 6:04 p.m.

Student Trustees Present:
Nicole Bigelow

Administrative Officials Present:
Roger Lawler; Rick Boisvert; Heather Cullen; Shesh Maharaj; Bruce Rodrigues; Paul Tratnyek

Special Resources For The Meeting:
Dave Bennett

Regrets:
Gerry Clifford; Manny Figueiredo; Thomas Slabon

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 5:58 p.m.

1.1 -- Opening Prayer & Memorials

D. Blum welcomed Annabel MacDonald, chaplain from St. Mary’s High School to lead opening prayer with N. Bigelow. Intentions were offered for: W. Buchholtz’s father-in-law, L. Ervin’s cousin, and a prayer of thanksgiving for the staff and students on their Spiritual Development day.

1.2 -- Approval of Agenda

2009-126 -- It was moved by W. Buchholtz and seconded by M. da Silva: THAT the agenda for October 19, 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 regular meeting of September 14, 2009
   3.1.2 Minutes of regular meeting of September 21, 2009
   3.1.3 Items for Action from Previous Meeting
   3.1.4 Minutes of Task Force on …

2009-127 -- It was moved by J. Gowing 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

5. Ownership Linkage

5.1

6. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

6.1

7. Board Education

7.1 Storm Water Management Rates – Municipal Action
D. Bennett presented an information report to the trustees. Trustees were advised the City of Waterloo and City of Kitchener recently completed a Storm Water Management Program and Funding Review study which recommended a storm water management utility be applied to all properties, including tax-exempt properties, to fully fund the program and manage the quantity and quality of the storm water. The proposed user system would charge a rate based on the amount of impervious area that exists on property owned by school boards phased-in over a four year period. This would have an impact to our board as we are on a fixed budget from the Ministry based on enrolment.

There was discussion around a course of action. A motion will be brought to the public board meeting in October.

7.2 ARC Review Process – new B7 Memo – Should Trustees be on Accommodation Review Committees?
Trustees discussed the revisions to the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the role of trustees on future Accommodation Review Committees. The committee feels the trustees’ presence is valuable as it brings a system perspective that is not staff and trustees can be the interface between staff and parents.

A motion will be brought forward at the Oct 26th board meeting that there will be trustee representation on the Accommodation Review Committee in a non-voting manner.

7.3 Questions About Catholic Education in Other Jurisdictions
W. Buchholtz attended the CCSTA conference in June and gave a report on what is occurring in Catholic education across the country. There were no reports from Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia as they have no representation in CCSTA. Of the other provinces reporting some receive full funding, some partial funding and one province doesn’t receive any funding. In some provinces schools are operated by the Diocese.

7.3 Ethics
B. Rodrigues spoke to the trustees around the issues that govern ethics and ethics versus morality. Morality refers to the standards or norms held by a particular society. Ethics is the inquiry into or the investigation of the subject matter of morality. One goal is to develop a consistent standard of ethics.

Trustees identified the following issues that pertain to our work that would be beneficial for further discussion:

1. Hiring – the board has a policy on hiring that prevents administration from discriminating except for religion.
2. Is bigger better? – look at open access to elementary school
3. Hiring of non-Catholic teachers – What would the benefit be? What would we lose?
4. Ethical issue of trustees visiting schools
5. Competing ethics – what drives us? One moral, one ethical – need to have a balanced budget and student success.
6. We are all responsible to do our job. Is it ethical to rush through it to get it done or take your time and have it done properly?

### 7.4 OCSTA Regional Meeting

Four trustees attended the OCSTA Regional meeting. Trustees discussed Bill 177. J. Gowing and J. Nairn will meet to discuss and bring back a plan of action to the Committee of the Whole in November on lobbying.

### 8. Policy Discussion

#### 8.1

### 9. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

| 9.1 – Monitoring Reports & Votes 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

- Minutes of SEAC Meetings
- 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

2009-128 -- It was moved by Fr. R. Hétu and seconded by G. Reitzel:

THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:57p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary