

Board of Trustees' Board Meeting

A public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, December 14, 2009 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:

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

Student Trustees Present:

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:

Nicole Bigelow; Fr. Robert Héту

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 6:08 p.m.

1.1 -- Opening Prayer & Memorials

The opening prayer was led by Pastoral Care team. Intentions were offered for: L. Ervin's cousin, and Don Robertson the former CEO of Cambridge Memorial Hospital who passed away.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Remove Item 10.1.1 Board Policy IV 008 Financial Condition from the agenda.

2009-06 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **D. Blum**:

THAT the agenda for December 14, 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*

2.1 Annual Report of the Director of Education

2009-07 -- It was *moved* by **W. Buchholtz** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:

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

3. *Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees*

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

- 3.1.1 Minutes of Meeting of November 30, 2009
- 3.1.2 Minutes of Meeting of December 7, 2009
- 3.1.3 Items for Action from Previous Meeting December 14, 2009
- 3.1.4 Staff Report of

2009-08 -- It was *moved* by **J. Gowing** and *seconded* by **D. Blum**:

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 Monsignor Doyle Family of Schools

H. Cullen introduced our guest speakers Cathy DeGoey, principal, and [Antonietta Leonardo](#), teacher from St. Ambrose to talk about the Empower program. Alison Walsh, special education research teacher, was present as she is the contact with Sick Kids. The staff of Sick Kids provides tremendous support to the teachers doing the program. Staff are trained by Sick Kids and purchase a kit for the school. The program was piloted in St. Ambrose and St. Peter last year with more schools offering the program this year.

St. Ambrose was first introduced to the Empower program in June 2008 and this year they have two groups of grade two and grade three students. The program is only available to students who are in special education. It is very intense, very scripted and meets the needs of the students in the program. It takes a full school year to complete the program so that it is solid for the student and they understand it. The principal received very positive comments from a parent that the program was very successful for her son.

The program focuses on five strategies: sounding out strategy, rhyming strategy (spelling patterns), peeling off strategy (prefixes and suffices), vowel alert strategy (vowel sound and name instead of short and long sounds), spy strategy (find known words in new words) and the game plan which incorporates all the strategies. Students learn that reading is like playing a game and they must be flexible.

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

5. *Ownership Linkage*

6. *Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces*

6.1 Governance Committee Meeting

6.2 Audit Committee Meeting of December 8, 2009

Trustees discussed the Audit Committees' recommendations to amend the wording of provision #5 in Policy IV 009 and review the threshold limits.

2009-09 -- It was *moved* by **J. Nairn** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

THAT the Board of Trustees refer Board Policy IV 009, specifically policy provision #5, to Governance for review.--

Carried by consensus

Add to pending items and put on the Board agenda in June 2010.

6.3 Vision of Inclusion Meeting

6.4 Consultation Meeting

6.5 Awards

6.6 Pastoral Care Team Meeting

6.7 Trustee Budget – Update

The budget will be posted on the trustee website.

6.8 Parent Involvement Committee Report

6.9 Student Trustee Report

T. Slabon advised the student trustees met with a contact from MOSAIC experienced in organizing a film festival. They have already connected with student councils and will approach teachers and students.

7. *Board Education*

8. *Policy Discussion*

9. *Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance*

9.1 Board Policy II 005 Consultation

Trustees discussed the responses to their evaluation of Policy II 005 and are in agreement to refer this policy to the Consultation committee to report back to the Board in May and to re-monitor the policy in June.

2009-10 -- It was *moved* by **J. Gowing** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

THAT the Board of Trustees re-monitor Policy II 005 Consultation in June 2010. --Carried by consensus

2009-11-- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:

THAT the Board of Trustees refer Policy II 005 Consultation to the Consultation committee to report back to the Board in May. --Carried by consensus

9.2 OCSTA AGM Resolutions

Trustees discussed the draft resolutions for the OCSTA AGM.

L. Ervin will redraft the resolutions regarding legal fees and circulate them by email.

2009-12 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **J. Nairn**:

THAT the Board of Trustees accepts the following resolution on Transportation Consortium:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to re-visit the transportation consortium and develop a transportation formula that does not penalize boards operating at a high level of effectiveness and efficiency because of another board's ineffectiveness and inefficiency --Carried by consensus

2009-13 -- It was *moved* by **D. Blum** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:

THAT the Board of Trustees accepts the following resolution on Return to Teaching for Principals and Vice-Principals:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to support CPCO's proposal to amend the Education Act to protect the seniority rights of members who return to the bargaining unit within a specified period after their appointment. This amendment would provide seniority rights to these individuals, who due to staff reductions, internal restructuring, or self-determination of suitability for leadership, must return to the bargaining unit. --Carried by consensus

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

10.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance

10.1.1 Board Policy IV 008 Financial Condition – removed from agenda

10.1.2 Board Policy IV 004 Treatment of Staff

Trustees received the draft monitoring report on Policy IV 004 Treatment of Staff and provided feedback. The monitoring report will come back to the Board in January 2010.

10.1.3 Board Policy IV 006 Employee Compensation

Trustees discussed the draft monitoring report on Policy IV 006 Employee Compensation and provided feedback.

10.2 Advice from the CEO

10.2.1 Name for Grand River South School

2009-14 -- It was *moved* by **L. Ervin** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:
THAT the new Catholic elementary school currently under construction in the Grand River South area of Kitchener be named Pope John Paul II. --**Carried by consensus**

10.2.2 Update on Revised Estimates and new reporting process

S. Maharaj reviewed the 2009-10 First Quarter Interim Financial Report for the period ended November 30/09. Trustees were advised enrolment and staffing are key areas to focus on in the budget.

The expenditure and revenue summary were reviewed.

2009-15 -- It was *moved* by **J. Gowing** and *seconded* by **D. Blum**:
THAT under Board Policy IV 008 provision #4 the Board of Trustees approve the CEO using an increase of the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve in the amount of \$404,099 for a total use of \$1,573,913 for the 2009-2010 school year. --**Carried by consensus**

11. Potential Agenda Items

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 16 at 6 p.m. PIC
- 12.2.2 December 18 at 10 a.m. Board Office Mass
- 12.2.3 December 19 – January 3 Christmas Break
- 12.2.4 Jan 6 at 6:00 p.m. Governance Committee
- 12.2.5 Jan 6 at 7:00 p.m. SEAC
- 12.2.6 Jan 11 at 6 p.m. Vision of Inclusion Committee
- 12.2.7 Jan 11 at 6 p.m. Consultation Committee
- 12.2.8 Jan 15 and 16 Chair/Vice-Chair Conference
- 12.2.9 Jan 18 at 6 p.m. Committee of the Whole
- 12.2.10 Jan 25 at 6 pm. Regular Board Meeting

12.3 – Pending Items:

- 12.3.1 Board Leadership
- 12.3.2 SEAC and statement on inclusion
- 12.3.3 Continuing Education
- 12.3.4 Declining Enrolment Report
- 12.3.5 St. John Building Condition
- 12.3.6 Monsignor Gleason – surplus to board need

13. Items For Next Meeting Agenda

- 13.1 Board Policy II 006 Celebration of Excellence
- 13.2 Board Policy III 003 Unity of Control
- 13.3 Board Policy IV 005 Hiring and Promotion
- 13.4 Board Policy I 001 Ends

14. Adjournment – confirm decisions made tonight

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

15. Motion to Adjourn

2009-16 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **J. Gowing**:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:07 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary