

Special Board of Trustees' Meeting

A special public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, June 2, 2014 at the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre.

Trustees Present:

Joyce Anderson; Wayne Buchholtz (Chair); Manuel da Silva; Janek Jagiellowicz; Frank Johnson; Anthony Piscitelli; Wendy Price; Peter Reitmeier; Greg Reitzel

Student Trustees Present:

Alexandru Gheorghe; Carlos Valero

Administrative Officials Present:

Larry Clifford; Gerry Clifford; Derek Haime; Maria Ivankovic; Shesh Maharaj; Laura Shoemaker

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Jeff Admans; Laura Isaac

Regrets:

David DeSantis

Absent:

Fr. Fred Scinto, C.R.; John Shewchuk

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 6:15 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

The opening prayer was led by C. Valero, Board Pastoral Team.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

2014-98 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **J. Anderson**:
THAT the agenda for June 2, 2014 be now approved. --- Carried by consensus.

1.3 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

- 1.3.1 From the current meeting – W. Buchholtz declared an indirect conflict with Item 10.2.2 School Year Budget 2014-15 as his son is a teacher
- 1.3.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g. day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the board is required to do)

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

- 3.1.1 Minutes of Special Board of Trustees May 20/14
- 3.1.2 Minutes of Special Board of Trustees May 28/14

3.1.3. Approve the action from the previous in-camera meeting of June 2/14 related to property

2014-99 -- It was *moved* by **P. Reitmeier** and *seconded* by **W. Price**:

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

Carried by consensus

4 Delegation

4.1 VIP Award

4.1.1 G. Reitzel presented the VIP Award to Joseph Scarfone, a student at St. David C.S.S.

4.2 St. Benedict Aviva Project

L. Clifford introduced Dan Witt, principal of St. Benedict C.S.S. to speak about the Aviva Community Fund Project.

D. Witt advised Aviva Canada, coming into its sixth year, has pledged one million dollars to make positive changes by funding local and national community initiatives. St. Benedict's proposal, targeting the grand prize category of \$150,000, entitled "A Celebration of People" is the enhancement of the sports fields, elevating our community connectivity; better meeting the needs of our greater community. Each year St. Benedict's is host to local soccer, football, Frisbee football clubs, track and field, and community use.

He introduced each member of the team – staff and parent representative to speak about their role in the project. The proposal is for a multi-purpose electronic scoreboard, accessible stadium seating and enhanced community walking trails. The team will be involving students and community to produce website banners, an electronic newsletter, posters, and flyers. Communication will be made through the Cambridge Times, radio, television, church and parent councils of elementary schools connected to St. Benedict. It is a community based activity.

The Aviva Fund project embraces the vision of "Our Catholic Schools: Heart of the Community – success for each, a place for all" and will serve to enhance the profile of St. Benedict as a community hub for the City of Cambridge.

5 Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6 Actions From Board Committees/Task Forces

7 Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8. Policy Discussion

9. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

9.1 Board Policy II 015 Ownership Linkage

W. Buchholtz asked trustees if we are in compliance.

2014-100 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **P. Reitmeier**:

THAT the Board of Trustees has reviewed Policy II 015 Ownership Linkage and finds we are not in compliance. ---

Carried by consensus

9.2 Is There a Need to Review This Policy?

Trustees agreed there is no need to review the policy. They recommend discussion on how we can move towards more compliance.

9.3 Board Policy II 011 Student Representation on the Board

W. Buchholtz asked student trustees if we are in compliance

2014-101 -- It was *moved* by **J. Anderson** and *seconded* by **A. Piscitelli**:

THAT the Board of Trustees has reviewed Policy II 011 Student Representation on the Board and finds we are in compliance. --- **Carried by consensus**

9.4 Is There a Need to Review This Policy?

Trustees agreed there is no need to review the policy.

9.5 Board Policy II 012 Student Representation Role Description

2014-102 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:
THAT the Board of Trustees has reviewed Policy II 012 Student Representation Role Description and finds we are in compliance with the exception of provision 10. --- Carried by consensus

9.6 Is There a Need to Review This Policy?

Trustees agreed there is a need to review the policy. Trustees agreed to refer the policy to Governance to look at provision 10.

10. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

10.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance

10.2 Advice from the CEO

10.2.1 Third Floor Task Team

L. Clifford invited D. Haime and Jeff Admans to speak about the task team. D. Haime advised following a survey he and J. Admans created a third floor task team with representation from learning services and information technology. The team identified their concerns and several requests were addressed immediately. J. Admans advised a reconfiguration of the third floor should improve lighting, heating, ventilation and help with creative collaboration.

10.2.2 Board Policy IV 007 Budgeting: Draft 2014-2015 School Year Budget

P. Reitmeier took the Chair due to W. Buchholtz' declared indirect conflict.

L. Clifford said we are presenting a draft balanced budget.

L. Isaac advised of a number of challenges preparing the budget for 2014-15. Preparation begins in January/February with the budget advisory committee. The majority of our work is late March when the Ministry of Education announces the Grants for Student Needs (GSNs). The GSNs are used for calculating our revenues.

Budget challenges

- Declining enrolment
- Aging Information Technology infrastructure
- Reductions with minimal classroom and staffing impact

Ongoing

- Controlling supply costs
- Controlling utility costs
- Managing costs for students with individual needs
- Aging buildings

Enrolment

The Board's enrolment continues to decline in both elementary and secondary and is the key driver for most of the grants we receive from Ministry of Education.

Budget Reductions

- Staffing related to enrolment decline
- CYCWs as related to special education delivery model
- two layoffs
- Deferrals of administrative computer renewal, maintenance equipment purchases, Chromebooks/carts and wireless infrastructure.

Ministry of Education Priorities for Education

- Achieving excellence

- Ensuring equity
- Promoting well-being
- Enhancing public confidence

Each superintendent reviewed the area of the budget for their portfolios.

S. Maharaj advised the budget is balanced, compliant with board policy and Ministry requirements. There is inherent risk in some areas of the budget.

Trustees were requested to email their questions to S. Maharaj and L. Isaac to be answered at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

W. Buchholtz took the Chair at 8:49 p.m. He thanked S. Maharaj and L. Isaac for their outstanding job presenting a balanced budget.

11. Potential Agenda Items

11.1 Trustee Inquiry Report from the CEO

11.2 Shared Concerns

12. Announcements

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

- Minutes of SEAC Meetings
- Minutes of Parent Involvement Committee Meetings

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

13. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda

14. Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight. Closing Prayer

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

15. Motion to Adjourn

2014-103 -- It was *moved* by **M. da Silva** and *seconded* by **G. Reitzel**:

THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:53 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary