A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, February 8, 2016 at Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre, Kitchener

**Trustees Present:**
Joyce Anderson; Bill Conway; Manuel da Silva (Chair); Amy Fee; Frank Johnson; *Wendy Price; Greg Reitzel; Brian Schmalz; Melanie Van Alphen
*attended electronically

**Student Trustees Present:**

**Administrative Officials Present:**
Loretta Notten; Gerry Clifford; Jason Connolly; David DeSantis; Derek Haime; John Klein; Shesh Maharaj;

**Special Resources For The Meeting:**

**Regrets:**
Karen Hakim; Sebastian Monsalve; Laura Shoemaker; John Shewchuk

**Absent:**

**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.

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1. **Call to Order:**
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1.1 **Opening Prayer & Memorials**
The opening prayer was led by B. Schmalz, Pastoral Team. Intentions were offered for B. Schmalz’ uncle who is undergoing surgery; for a friend of M. da Silva who is ill; and for the families of the two young people who lost their lives in Alberta.

1.2 **Approval of Agenda**
2016-25 -- It was moved by A. Fee and seconded by B. Conway: THAT the agenda for February 8, 2016 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 (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 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1.1 Minutes of Committee of the Whole meeting of January 11, 2016

2016-26 -- it was moved by B. Schmalz and seconded by M. Van Alphen:

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

Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

5. Advice From the CEO

5.1 Numeracy Strategy Update

J. Klein introduced and welcomed two consultants, Petra LeDuc and Nancy Snyder.

Trustees experienced the Let’s take ‘5’ math activity.

The Numeracy Plan for K – 12 for Improvement in Mathematics:

- Focus on mathematics
- Coordinate and strengthen mathematics leadership
- Build understanding of effective mathematics instruction
- Support collaborative professional learning in mathematics
- Design a responsive mathematics learning environment
- Provide assessment and evaluation in mathematics that supports student learning
- Facilitate access to mathematics learning resources

Why focus on math? Research has shown early math skills are:

- the best predictor of school and career success;
- consistent for boys and girls from high and low socioeconomic backgrounds,
- a better predictor of language skills than early reading


5.2 STSWR Annual Report

S. Maharaj introduced Benoit Bourgault to present his annual report.

B. Bourgault gave an overview of the 2014-15 annual report advising that student safety is always at the forefront. Training is offered to students, parents, school staff and school bus drivers. We are currently researching the use of cameras for the stop arms on the bus.

5.3 First Nation Metis and Inuit Education (FNMI)

D. Haime introduced Tammy Webster, Aboriginal Support Teacher.

T. Webster spoke of the goals for 2015-16:

- to improve student achievement and well-being among FNMI and
- to close the achievement gap between Aboriginal students and “all students”.

Trustees previewed the video “Proud to be FNMI” created to promote self-identification. Provincial data for EQAO shows FNMI students are struggling in reading, writing and math. How do we continue to support our FNMI students and close the achievement gaps? Embed FNMI histories and cultures in classroom teaching; increase awareness of FNMI perspectives, histories, languages, cultures increasing the number of students and families that choose to self-identify; analyse our data; increasing the alignment and integration of ministry priorities and initiatives.

5.4 Staff Recognition Update

L. Notten advised we recognize the quality of work of our staff and celebrate by acknowledging their significant years of services annually. This year the event will be held at the Waterloo Region Museum beginning with a paraliturgy celebrated by Fr. Joseph de Viveiros, followed by a reception and presentations to our 25 – 40 year staff as well as our retirees.
6. **Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)**

Trustees met as separate groups for Linkages and Pastoral Care. W. Price left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

6.1 **Linkages Activity**
A. Fee advised certificates and invitations to a Beacons of Hope breakfast are being prepared for our Community Partners. Preparation for the Community Leaders breakfast May 6th is underway. Appreciation letters will be sent to the two priests from our Diocese chosen for Pope Francis' “Missionaries of Mercy” ministry.

6.2 **Pastoral Care Team**
B. Schmalz and F. Johnson discussed making arrangements for an evening for trustees and senior staff to view the Francis Effect video.

Former director, Michael Schmitt has been invited for opening prayer at the March 21st Board meeting.

7. **Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces**

8. **Board Education (at the request of the Board)**

9. **Policy Discussion**

10. **Assurance of Successful Board Performance**

11. **Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance**

12. **Potential Agenda Items**

13. **Announcements**

14. **Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items**

14.1 **Items for the Next Meeting Agenda**

14.2 **Pending Items**

15. **Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight. Closing Prayer**

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

16. **Closing Prayer**

17. **Motion to Adjourn**

2016-27-- It was moved by G. Reitzel and seconded by A. Fee: THAT the meeting be now adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:35 p.m.

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Chair of the Board

Secretary