Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, April 11, 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; 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; Laura Shoemaker

Special Resources For The Meeting:
Lindsay Ford

Regrets:
Brian Schmalz; Karen Hakim; Sebastian Monsalve; 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.

1. Call to Order:
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials
The opening prayer was led by the Chair.

1.2 Approval of Agenda
Move Item 5.3 before Item 5.1, add Item 5.5 Resurrection CSS Update; move Item 8.1 and 8.2 before Item 6.1
2016-50 -- It was moved by A. Fee and seconded by W. Price:
THAT the agenda for April 11, 2016 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 (e.g. day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the board is required to do)
2.1 Education Development Charges – Confirmation of Meeting Dates
2016-51 -- It was moved by B. Conway and seconded by J. Anderson:
THAT the Consent Agenda: Director of Education and the recommendations contained therein be now approved. --- Carried by consensus
3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)
   3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings
   3.1 Minutes of Mar 7, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting
   3.2 Items for Action from Previous In-camera Meeting of April 11/16 related to Awards and Human Resources
   2016-52 -- It was moved by W. Price 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
   4.1 Saint John Paul II Boundary Review
   Christine Goodeve is a parent in the Chicopee area potentially impacted by the boundary change. She said her son is autistic and depends on the staff to be successful. The change in school start time at St. Daniel would require them to have before school care which would be an added expense for her family. She suggested trustees consider moving students within walking distance to St. Daniel effective September 2017 and doing a boundary review two or three years later once the new public school opens.

   4.2 Saint John Paul II Boundary Review
   Rachel Stahlbaum, a parent, said her daughter has shown significant improvement since moving to Saint John Paul II and she feels the implications of separating the school community would be devastating. She would also need to find childcare in the morning which is an added financial expense. Supports in the community are important to families.

   4.3 Saint John Paul II Boundary Review
   Kristiina Montero is one of the parent representatives on the boundary review committee. Speaking as a parent she feels neither option adequately addresses the enrolment pressures at Saint John Paul II. She is requesting that all children and their siblings currently at Saint John Paul II see through their primary school education at Saint John Paul II. Any students in the new build area of Grand River South would be bussed to St. Daniel.

5. Advice From the CEO
   5.1 Saint John Paul II Boundary Review
   L. Ford advised this report provides additional information related to questions from the March 21, 2016 meeting regarding enrolment.

   5.2 Presentation on Service Dogs
   Loretta Notten introduced Nadya Tymochenko and Gillian Tuck Kutarna from Miller Thompson with whom we have been consulting on the revisions to our AP Memo.

   N. Tymochenko advised there are three types of legislation – Human Rights Code, Accommodation of Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the Education Act.

   Human Rights Code
   - Section 1 - right to services without discrimination.
   - There is a duty to accommodate until the point of undue hardship. It must be reasonable to meet the student’s needs but doesn’t need to be perfect and it may not be the preferred choice of the parent. Funding is taken into consideration. Health and safety rights of individuals predominate.

   The AODA – Service Standards Reg. 429/07
   - ss. 3(1) shall establish policies, practices and procedures governing the provision of services to persons with disabilities,
   - ss 3(2) must be provided in a manner that:
     - Respects dignity
     - Promotes integration
     - Equal benefit - equity

   AODA – Service Animals
   - ss 4(9) An animal is a service animal for a person with a disability:
     (a) It is readily apparent that the animal is used by the person for reasons relating to his or her disability;
     or
     (b) If the person provides a letter from a physician or nurse confirming that the person requires the animal for reasons relating to the disability
Education Act
- ss 170(1)7 provides a duty to provide special education programs and services
- Regulation 181/98 identified the procedural requirements
- IEPs identify the substantive special education programs and services provided to students by way of accommodation, modification of curriculum and provision of alternative curriculum to address demonstrated learning needs

Certified Service Dogs are working dogs with no interaction with other students or staff. Certification is by recognized standards and municipal licensing. Individualized assessment is necessary for students who are not the dog’s handler. When the student is not the dog’s handler there needs to be another adult available. It is not reasonable to provide additional resource for a dog, if there are other ways to provide accommodation to meet student’s demonstrated disability related needs. There is a different right if the student handles the dog versus the parents handling the dog. There is a need to review all the Information and find the best accommodation for the student.

5.3 Service Dog Report/Draft AP Memo
L. Shoemaker advised the policy was updated to ensure ongoing efficient and effective adherence to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2006. The updated policy recognizes three categories of trained certified service dogs used to accommodate the special needs of some students: Guide dogs usually for the visually impaired, hearing dogs for the hearing impaired and service dogs for persons with disabilities. Based on our mission and vision A. Fee stated she does not support this policy in its draft form. The director, superintendent and lawyers provided answers to the questions regarding the revisions.

The trustees moved in-camera at 7:48 p.m.
The public meeting resumed at 8:07 p.m.

M. da Silva advised AP memos are not policies of the board of trustees but the discretion of staff and thanked them for presenting a draft of the updated policy.

5.4 Mental Health Update
L. Shoemaker participated in the first mental health meeting in Toronto hosted by the Ministry of Education for Information on where the province is moving with respect to mental health. The portfolio has changed into understanding well-being and how boards measure well-being. A. Warne offered a series with respect to mental health and well-being. Administrators will receive Information at the next meeting on It’s Children’s Mental Health Week.

5.5 Resurrection CSS Update
L. Notten advised the intruder involved in the incident at Resurrection CSS last week was arrested by the Waterloo Region Police Services. Information has been communicated to staff and the community. Secondary administrators will be asked for feedback on the possibility of locking some or all the doors.

The incident regarding a threat to the school community over social media that happened earlier today has been investigated. In discussion with the police the school was evacuated, thoroughly checked and we have been assured the building is okay. This Information has been communicated as well.

Item 8.1 and 8.2 were discussed next.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)
Trustees as a whole group discussed items for Linkages and Pastoral Care.

6.1 Linkages Activity
A. Fee provided an update on those who have responded to Community Leaders breakfast and Beacons of Hope breakfasts.

A letter of appreciation will be sent to Shesh Maharaj, Laura Isaac and their team for receiving the Business Award for the fourth year.

6.2 Pastoral Care Team
F. Johnson will speak with B. Schmalz on the status of offering the Francis Effect session.
7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

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

8.1 OCSTA Spring Regional Meeting Questions
Trustees and senior staff discussed issues that are current priorities for our board for discussion at the AGM in April. They identified:
- Ministry of Education’s new Autism plan and the effect on school boards.
- Status of adult education funding

These will be sent to OCSTA.

8.2 2016 OCSTA AGM Resolutions
M. da Silva reviewed each of the resolutions with the trustees.

Moved to Items 6.1 and 6.2

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

2016-53-- It was moved by A. Fee and seconded by W. Price:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned.
The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:00 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary