A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, November 14, 2016 at Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre, Kitchener

**Trustees Present:**
Joyce Anderson, Bill Conway, Manuel da Silva (Chair), Amy Fee, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Greg Reitze, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen

**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:**

**Regrets:**
Joseph De Sousa, Samantha Lim

**Absent:**

**Recorder:**
John Shewchuk, Chief Managing Officer

**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 6:00 p.m.

   1.1 **Opening Prayer & Memorials**
The opening prayer was led by B. Schmalz, Pastoral Team. Intentions were offered for the brother-in-law of W. Price, a student at John Sweeney CES who was injured in a traffic accident, a friend of M. da Silva’s son who died suddenly, former staff member Ed Moser, whose mother passed away, and Barb and Karl Pilsner.

1.2 **Approval of Agenda**
Trustees agreed by consensus to move agenda item 8.1 – “OCSTA Communications” to immediately following agenda item 5.3.

   2016-122 -- It was moved by A. Fee and seconded by J. Gravelle:
   THAT the agenda for November 14, 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)**
3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings
3.1 Minutes of October 17, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting

J. Gravelle noted the SEAC membership list as provided in the Consent Agenda is incomplete. Trustees agreed by consensus to remove this version of the list and provide an updated version at the next board meeting.

2016-123 -- It was moved by M. Van Alphen and seconded by B. Schmalz:
THAT the Consent Agenda Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein – minus the SEAC membership list -- be now approved. --- Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

5. Advice from the CEO

5.1 St. Louis Adult Learning and Continuing Education Update

G. Clifford, P. Cox and D. Wehrle presented the St. Louis Adult Learning and Continuing Education update, found on pgs. 10-12 of the agenda package. St. Louis celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. It currently has 383 staff at five locations across Waterloo Region providing 13,000 to 15,000 “learner contacts” annually. The school processed 225 University applications and 475 College applications in 2015-16. Additionally, in 2015-16, 372 students completed and received their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

St. Louis will focus on three key areas this coming year:

✓ A final determination of plans for the main campus at 80 Young street will drive plans for the next three years in terms of future focusing;
✓ Full participation in the three-year Adult Education Strategy will bring to light both the challenges and opportunities that adult and continuing education organizations province-wide experience; and
✓ Continued focus to support both the Syrian refugees and all refugees/newcomers with ESL and LINC services as numbers of students continue to grow (both September to June and July to August).

Trustees asked questions of clarification.

5.2 Student Success Initiative Update

D. DeSantis, J. Carley, M. Booth and L. Bumbacco presented the Student Success Learning to 18 update, found on pgs. 13-35 of the agenda package.

The strategy is designed to meet five inter-related goals focused on the secondary school system:

✓ Increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates;
✓ Support a good outcome for all students;
✓ Provide students with new and relevant learning opportunities;
✓ Build on students’ strengths and interests; and
✓ Provide students with an effective elementary to secondary school transition.

Key areas of focus for 2016-17 are:

✓ 21st Century Teaching and Learning and IT Strategy
✓ Student Success Strategy
✓ Pathways Strategy
✓ Blended Learning/eLearning Strategy
✓ Specialist High Skills Major Program Strategy
✓ Experiential Learning & OYAP Strategy
✓ School/College/Work Initiative Strategy
✓ Literacy Strategy
✓ Numeracy Strategy
Trustees asked questions of clarification.

5.3 **St. Jerome’s University Sponsorship**

L. Notten drew the attention of Trustees to the letter from St. Jerome’s University, found on pg. 36 of the agenda package. The letter thanks WCDSB for its sponsorship of the annual Feast of St. Jerome Liturgy and Dinner.

6. **Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)**

Trustees, in small groups, discussed items for Linkages and Pastoral Care.

6.1 **Linkages Activity**

A. Fee reported the Commissioning Ceremony brochure is finished and the Linkages Committee is very pleased with the result. The committee wishes to add successful EcoSchools to the list of annual appreciation letters and also wishes to continue the annual board Christmas card tradition.

L. Notten noted that each Trustee will have a formal role in the Commissioning Ceremony.

6.2 **Pastoral Care Activity**

J. Gravelle reported on the committee’s idea to host a dinner at which trustees and senior staff attend with spouses and will actually do the cooking. St. Clement Parish Hall was suggested as a location. A bowling night in April is being considered.

W. Price reported that a special prayer table for the boardroom will be built by a board employee and donated in memory of the late Frank Johnson.

L. Notten suggested the development of new board award in Frank Johnson’s name, to be presented at the annual Staff Recognition Evening.

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

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

8.1 **OCSTA Communications**

M. da Silva drew the attention of Trustees to the extensive package of information from the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association, found on pgs. 37-153 of the agenda package.

G. Clifford explained the impact on WCDSB of the government’s new guidelines on Before-and-After School Programs Kindergarten – Grade 6 will be minimal. WCDSB has provided service up to Grade 6 from the outset – one of only three boards in Ontario in that position. Impacts will be far greater on boards that will now need to provide service up to Grade 6.

With regard to the Ombudsman’s report and the question of excluding students, L. Shoemaker explained the ruling will have little impact on WCDSB, as WCDSB does not exclude students.

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

   2016-124-- It was moved by W. Price and seconded by A. Fee:
   THAT the meeting be now adjourned.
   The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:10 p.m.

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Chair of the Board                                          Secretary