Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, April 10, 2017 at Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre, Kitchener

Trustees Present:
Joyce Anderson (Chair), Bill Conway, Manuel da Silva, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Melanie Van Alphen

Student Trustees Present:
Joseph De Sousa, Samantha Lim

Administrative Officials Present:
Loretta Notten, Gerry Clifford, Jason Connolly, Shesh Maharaj, Richard Olson, Laura Shoemaker

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:
Amy Fee, Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, David DeSantis, John Klein

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 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials
The opening prayer was led by J. Gravelle, Pastoral Team.

1.2 Approval of Agenda
2017-56 -- It was moved by W. Price and seconded by M. da Silva:
THAT the agenda for April 10, 2017 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 March 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting
2017-57 -- It was moved by B. Conway 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 One by One: Student Service Trips to Guatemala

R. Olson introduced John Schneider, Elementary Chaplain, to share his experience in Guatemala. We have been offering students the opportunity for a global experience specifically in the Dominican Republic. The overall impact for staff and students who have had this experience has been consistently positive. We have partnered with One by One a local not-for-profit organization who offers service experiences for high school students and adults in the Central American country of Guatemala.

J. Schneider advised One by One is a new organization operated by experienced Catholic educators who also have extensive experience leading and organizing service trips. He travelled to Guatemala with this organization to assess whether future possibilities might exist for our students that would:

- provide experiences of the embodiment of the Catholic School teachers that may transform both the students and the world;
- develop students as responsible, global citizens;
- deepen students’ understanding of the importance of encounter, relationships and solidarity in overcoming a culture of indifference;
- foster the development of authentic persons through the integration of their thinking, their understanding, valuing, living and loving;
- nurture the students’ developing faith and spirituality, prepare students to be responsible, respectful international travelers.

The experience is designed to be hands-on. There are work projects and opportunities to connect with local community members. The Partners in Catholic Education for the Diocese of Hamilton have been briefed on this initiative and are supportive of it. It is prudent to begin the process of identifying our next partner in providing faith-based, service learning experiences for our students that include the active participation of our most important partners in Catholic Education.

5.2 Renewing the Promise Symposium 2017

L. Notten advised the work we are doing tonight is being launched by Institute for Catholic Education and all Catholic partners and will culminate in a symposium in November in which every board including the French board will have representation.

She advised in preparation for the provincial symposium on November 14 and 15, 2017 each board was asked to have discussion on three questions.

From the Ontario Bishops’ Pastoral Letter "Fulfilling the Promise" – The heart and soul of Catholic education is Jesus Christ, and our school system finds its very reason for existence in its communication of the Christian message. The goal of Catholic education is nothing less than a truly holistic formation of persons who will be living witnesses to the faith. We are needed as a full partner in the human question for greater justice.

1. What are some of the ways that Catholic education in Ontario supports students to be living witnesses to their faith?

2. What are some of the current challenges facing Catholic Education in Ontario?

3. What are some of the current opportunities for Catholic Education in Ontario that will help shape a positive future?

As a large group trustees shared their thoughts on each of the questions and then individually completed the online survey providing their answers to each question.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

Trustees discussed items for Linkages and Pastoral Care.

6.1 Linkages Activity

L. Notten reported on the list of those who have responded to the invitation to community leaders to attend a breakfast on
Friday, May 5th. J. Shewchuk to follow-up with those who haven’t responded and send invitations to the clergy. The agenda for the breakfast was reviewed.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity
L. Notten advised trustees and senior staff enjoyed the Escape Room activity on April 3rd. Trustees and their families invited to attend mass will be at 11:45 a.m. on May 7th at Blessed Sacrament church.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)
8.1 OCSTA Communications
J. Anderson asked trustees if there were any comments or questions on the attached OCSTA communications.

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements
13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (ass scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated):

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
2017-59-- It was moved by W. Price and seconded by B. Conway:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned.
The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:21 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary