Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, October 16, 2017 at Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre, Kitchener

Trustees Present:
*Joyce Anderson, Bill Conway, Manuel da Silva, Amy Fee, *Jeanne Gravelle, Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen
*attended by teleconference

Student Trustees Present:
Kate Jamieson, Meghan Nemeth

Administrative Officials Present:
Loretta Notten, Gerry Clifford, Jason Connolly, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, Judy Merkel, Laura Shoemaker

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:
Wendy Price (Chair,) Richard Olson

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 Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. B. Conway welcomed Alice Figueiredo who will become the new Executive Administrative Assistant when Barb Pilsner retires October 31, 2017.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials
The opening prayer was led by B. Schmalz, Pastoral Team. Intentions were offered for Nathan Wehrle, former student. Please keep family and friends in prayer.

1.2 Approval of Agenda
Item 8 will be presented prior to Item 6
2017-127 – It was moved by M. da Silva and seconded by B. Schmalz:
THAT the agenda for October 16, 2017 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
3.1.1 Minutes of September 11, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting
2017-128 -- It was moved by M. da Silva 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 Renewed Math Strategy Update
J. Klein highlighted the gains made by the increased support in secondary schools in Grade 9 Applied Math and the focused work of the Grade 2 to 6 sub-group in the intensive elementary schools. Three of the four secondary schools are above the provincial percentage of students at or above provincial standard.

Sherrie Rellinger and Nancy Snyder, Numeracy Consultants, reviewed numeracy initiatives for 2017-18. All elementary schools deemed “Intense” or “Increased” support are networked K-8 co-facilitated by numeracy consultants. An intentional focus of great support is provided to the grade 2-6 group. Numeracy support teachers assist with “in-between” sessions, based on school-site SIPSA identified numeracy focus area.

All secondary schools deemed “increased” support (4 of 5) receive additional funding to engage in grade 9 professional learning networks to close gaps in achievement support by the numeracy consultant.

5.2 Japan Exchange Experience
Vic Degitis, RDO and Simone Beaucage, Vice Principal, International Education and St. Don Bosco provided highlights of the Exchange program.

S. Beaucage advised success for the program comes from the relationships built. The Japan Exchange has two parts – students coming here and our students going there to stay with host families. Students and chaperones from Japan visited our schools, toured Niagara Falls, CN Tower, the Royal Ontario Museum, our Waterloo Region Museum and St. Jacob’s Market. Our students and their chaperones were treated to cultural experiences with their host families, visiting historic gardens, temples and museums.

One host family shared their experience hosting two Japanese students. Their daughter spoke of the temples, shrines and cities she visited with her host family in Japan expanding her knowledge allowing her to grow as a global citizen.

5.3 Information Technology Services Summer Updates 2017
C. Demers reviewed the organizational chart for I.T. and the projects completed during 2016-17.

5.4 French Immersion Review Interim Update
J. Klein advised we have experienced success with the program. We will begin a consultation process in the 2017-18 school year to do a review of the program.

The meeting moved to Item 8 Board Education

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)
Trustees, in small groups, discussed items for Linkages and Pastoral Care

6.1 Linkages Activity
M. Van Alphen reviewed the activities for this year. The Commissioning for School Council Chairs/new administrators is Tuesday, Nov. 7th. The committee continued discussions on hosting lunch for the clergy. The Community Leaders breakfast will be scheduled for Friday, June 1/18.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity
B. Schmalz advised the committee will research booking time at the Soup Sisters, volunteering at Bridges (Cambridge homeless shelter) or in a nursing home and the Escape room. Senior staff would be invited to join the trustees.
School Board Governance Supports Discussion (Item 8.1):
As a whole group the Trustees offered suggestions for each of the questions. B. Pilsner will send their responses to B. Conway and L. Notten to be brought back to the Board on October 30/17.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)
8.1 School Board Governance Consultation
B. Conway asked trustees to discuss the questions while meeting in Pastoral Team and Linkages. Their feedback will follow the committee reports to the whole board.

8.2 2018 Student Trustee Alumnus Award
B. Conway recommended trustees and senior staff look at our past student trustees who qualify for this award and bring their recommendations back to Committee of the Whole in November for discussion.

8.3 OCSTA Communication
B. Conway advised of communications that have come forward from OCSTA.

J. Anderson and J. Gravelle left the meeting @ 7:35 p.m.

The meeting moved to Item 6 Ownership Linkage

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items

15. Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight. Closing Prayer

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

16. Closing Prayer

17. Motion to Adjourn
2017-129-- It was moved by A. Fee and seconded by B. Schmalz:
   THAT the meeting be now adjourned.
   The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:42 p.m.

Vice Chair of the Board

Secretary

Waterloo Catholic District School Board – Monday, October 16, 2017
Minutes – Committee of the Whole Meeting