Minutes

Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, April 8, 2019 at St. Benedict CSS, Cambridge.

**Trustees Present:**
Bill Conway (Chair), Manuel da Silva, Kevin Dupuis, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen, Tracey Weiler

**Wendy left meeting at 8:38 p.m.**

**Student Trustees Present:**
Izabella Tyc, Meghan Nemeth

**Administrative Officials Present:**
Loretta Notten, Jason Connolly, Geral Foran, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, Judy Merkel, Richard Olson, Laura Shoemaker

**Special Resources For The Meeting:**

Regrets:

Absent:

Recorder:
Alice Figueiredo, 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 5:36 p.m.

1.1 **Opening Prayer & Memorials**
The opening prayer was led by Manuel da Silva.

1.2 **Approval of Agenda**

Amendments to the agenda:

- Add 4.1 acknowledgement from Linda Gregorio on behalf of OPACE
- 7.1 SEAC Update from Chair to be spoken to after 4.1
- 8.3 Motion re: New Vision for Education announcement? to be spoken to after 5.3.

2019-14 -- It was moved by Trustee Gravelle and seconded by Trustee Price:
THAT the agenda for Monday, April 8, 2019, 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 March 4, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes

   2019-15 -- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Dupuis: THAT the Consent Agenda of Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved. --- Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

   4.1 OPACE AGM 80<sup>th</sup>
   Linda Gregorio on behalf of OPACE presented Director Notten with the Ontario Association of Parents for Catholic Education (OAPCE) Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. Ms. Gregorio thanked Director Notten for her exemplary leadership throughout her career in Catholic Education.

   7.1 SEAC Update from Chair
   Irene Holdbrook, SEAC chair provided the Board of Trustees with update on the SEAC committee including current standing members, challenges of soliciting new members and thankful for the Board always keeping the committee updated with current information.

   Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5. Advice From the CEO
   5.1 Adult Education Update
   Superintendent Foran along with Principal Paul Cox provided the Board of Trustees with an update on Adult Education at St. Louis. The updated included current statistics of learners, programs, partnerships, expansions including a site in Cambridge.

   Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.2 Well Being Update – Safe Schools
   Superintendent Merkel provided the Board of Trustees with an update on Safe and Accepting Schools. Suspension trends were discussed along with various Board programs, Cannabis Education, initiatives within our Board to promote Welling, specifically the Umbrella Project, the expansion of the Community Justice Initiative Project and next steps.

   Superintendent Merkel introduced Beth King, YMCA General Manager of Child and Youth Outcomes. Ms. King discussed the Alternative Suspension Program partnership between YMCA and St. Benedict / Monsignor Doyle. Data was shared along with program initiatives and the hope to expand to 7/8 students and the possibility of having the program in Kitchener.

   Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.3 Long Term Accommodation Plan
   Superintendent Maharaj, Lindsay Ford, Manager of Planning and Terri Pickett, Senior Manager of Facility Services presented the Long-Term Accommodation Plan.

   Ms. Ford discussed demographics, trends and planning strategies for each planning area within our Board. Ms. Pickett discussed the School Capital Improvement Funding, proposed projects and costs.

   Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.
8.3 Motion re: New Vision for Education announcement?

Trustee Van Alphen brought forth a motion and resolution that the Chair of the Board write a letter voicing concerns to the Minister of Education with respect to the recent announcement regarding the “New Vision for Education”. Initially the motion was brought forward as a communication, however, given the urgency of the matter and time constraint, it was recommended that a decision being made to direct the Chair of the Board to write the letter as soon as possible. It was clarified that 4.1.6 of the By-laws allows decisions to go forward as long as Trustees are in consent.

Trustees discussed pros and cons of writing such letter to the Minister of Education and the implications of same. It was noted that Special Education should be mentioned on its own merit and that all federation/union presidents should be carbon copied and perhaps all employees and OCSTA, Administrator Association Chairs and local MPP’s.

2019-16 -- It was moved by Trustee Van Alphen and seconded by Trustee da Silva: THAT the Chair of the Board write a letter, on behalf of the Trustees, to the Minister of Education sharing our concerns and disappointment with these changes to education. Copies to be shared with OCSTA, Catholic Boards and local MPP’s.--- Carried by consensus

It was moved by Trustee da Silva and seconded by Trustee Gravelle
That the Board of Trustees Motion to extend the meeting passed 8:30 p.m. – carried by consensus

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6.1 Linkages Activity
Trustees reported back from the Linkage Committee. Highlights include debrief on clergy dinner and suggestions for next year such as personal invitation and have more of a dialogue at next years event and advertise as such. Suggestion of writing letters to new clergy appointment in June. Update on Community Leaders Breakfast was provided.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity
Trustees reported back from the Pastoral Care Committee. Highlights include working on a potential date to have Mass on a Saturday evening at St. Mary’s of Seven Sorrows and then having Trustees prepare a dinner for senior mangers. It was decided that the Catholic Education Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. at St. Agnes on Sunday, May 5th.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

7.1 SEAC Update from Chair

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

8.1 OCSTA Communications
OCSTA Communications were discussed. It was brought forth that perhaps next year there be a challenge sent out to schools as an initiative to raise funds for Toonies for Tuition.

8.2 OCSTA Modules:
Module 5: A) Performance Review: Director of Education B) Board Self-Assessment
“What new learning can you share?”
“What you can bring into practice to the board?”

Module 6: The strategic Role and Multi-year Strategic Planning
“What new learning can you share?”
“What you can bring into practice to the board?”

Trustees discussed modules and exchanged dialogue on learning and how to bring practices to the Board.
8.3 Motion re: New Vision for Education announcement?
See after 5.3

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance
11.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)
13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated):
  • Apr 11: Kitchener's State of the City Address
  • Apr 13: Mayor's Dinner
  • Apr 17: CPIC PRO Grant Event – St. David
  • Apr 18: Beacons of Hope - St. Louis
  • Apr 24: Beacons of Hope - St. David FOS
  • Apr 25-27: OCSTA AGM
  • Apr 29: Board of Trustee (St. Benedict)
  • Apr 30: Beacons of Hope – St. Mary's FOS
  • May 1: Interfaith Breakfast
  • May 2: Staff Recognition Celebration
  • May 5: St. Vincent de Paul Dedication & Blessing
  • May 7: Mayor McGarry-State of City Address (Cambridge)
  • May 10: Community Leaders Breakfast
  • May 13: COW – St. Mary's HS
  • May 14: Bishop's Banquet
  • May 29- Jun 2: CCSTA AGM

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

  2019-17-- It was moved by Trustee Gravelle and seconded by Trustee Weiler:
  THAT the meeting be now adjourned. T meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:11 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary

Waterloo Catholic District School Board – Monday, April 8, 2019
Minutes – Committee of the Whole Meeting