



Board of Trustees' Board Meeting

A public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 1st floor Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber Street, Kitchener.

Trustees Present:

Linda Cuff (Vice-Chair), Kathy Doherty-Masters, Winston Francis, David Guerin, Renee Kraft, Marisa Phillips*, Robert Sikora (Chair), Conrad Stanley, Tracey Weiler

*-arrived at 6:07 p.m.

Student Trustees Present:

Allison-Hannah Berwick, Matteo Leone

Administrative Officials Present:

Tyrone Dowling, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonça, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Jennifer Ritsma, Annalisa Varano

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

Recorder:

Stephanie Medeiros, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 4.7 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 4.11 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 of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

Students from St. Clements C.E.S led prayer with a video recording.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgment

Territorial Acknowledgement declared by Chair Sikora.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Chair Sikora motioned for approval of the agenda with the following amendment:

- Add item 15.2 Trustees to move into Double In Camera meeting.

2024-118-- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Cuff:

THAT the agenda for Monday, November 25, 2024, be now approved, as amended.

--- Carried by consensus

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.4.1 From the current meeting – NIL

1.4.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

1.5 Items for Action - 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 Board of Trustees Minutes – Oct 28, 2024

3.2 SEAC Minutes – Oct 2, 2024

3.3 Director's Report

3.4 Governance Minutes – Oct 21, 2024 (Approval of Minutes)

3.5 Governance Minutes – Oct 21, 2024 (Approval of the Recommendations)

Chair Sikora motioned for approval of items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3.

2024-119-- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Francis:

THAT the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and the recommendations contained therein be now approved.

--- Carried by consensus

Vice-Chair Cuff motioned for Governance Committee to approve the Governance minutes of October 21, 2024.

2024-120-- It was moved by Trustee Guerin and seconded by Trustee Doherty-Masters:

THAT the Governance Committee approve the Governance minutes from October 21, 2024.

--- Carried by consensus

Chair Sikora motioned for the Board of Trustees to approve the Governance minutes of October 21, 2024.

2024-121-- It was moved by Trustee Cuff and seconded by Trustee Guerin:

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the recommendations of the Governance minutes from October 21, 2024.

--- Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

5. Advice from the CEO

5.1 Community Planning & Partnerships (CPPG)

Superintendent Maharaj welcomed Jennifer Passy, Manager of Planning, to deliver the Community Planning and Partnerships report. This report provided an overview of facility partnerships and their advantages, as well as an examination of the long-term accommodation plan aimed at identifying appropriate locations for facility partnerships. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.2 Financial Statements/Year End Report

Superintendent Maharaj welcomed Laura Isaac, Senior Manager of Financial Services, to deliver the Financial Statements and Year-End Report. The presentation confirmed to inform the Audit Committee that the Board achieved a balanced financial position for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

2024-122-- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Guerin:

That the Board of Trustees approve the 2023-24 audited Consolidated Financial Statements as attached.

--- Carried by consensus

5.3 Indigenous Education Update (BAP)

Superintendent Ritsma welcomed Jennifer Staats, Indigenous Education Consultant, to deliver the Indigenous Education Update. The presentation explored the various components of the Medicine Wheel and their significance for Indigenous students within our board. Additionally, it highlighted the recent addition of a second Indigenous support worker to support the elementary level and the other supporting the secondary level. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.4 Multilingual Language Learner Report

Superintendent Mendonça welcomed Barbara McCourt, the Student Achievement Consultant for Multilingual Learners, to deliver the Multilingual Language Learner Report. The presentation provided an overview of the support schedule

from the Multilingual Learner Support Teachers and examined the ML module within the student information system, Aspen, which tracks ELL programming and assessments. Additionally, the session covered the Lexia program and the ELD Program Pilot, emphasizing that assisting multilingual learners in classrooms is equity work. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.5 Special Education Update

Superintendent Foran presented the Special Education Update, introducing Tee Battistella, Manager of Student Services, and Erin Lemak, Principal of Student Services. Superintendent Foran discussed the Special Education Transition Navigator and the inclusive special education model that aligns with Catholic values. Tee highlighted proactive strategies aimed at fostering self-regulation, while Erin provided an overview of literacy resources designed for community living and active programs. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

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

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

7.1 Student Trustee Update

Student Trustees Berwick and Leone presented the Student Trustee report and provided an update on events and activities happening in the secondary school community along with Student Trustee Role update for the month of November.

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

8.1 Chair Sikora noted OCSTA Communications

Chair Sikora noted review of OCSTA communications and emphasized the planning and timelines associated with the OCSTA Resolutions, along with the upcoming OCSTA Seminar scheduled for January 2025.

8.2 Chair's Report

Chair Sikora delivered the Chair's report for November, highlighting the events in which Trustees engaged in across the Region.

9 Policy Discussion

10 Assurance of Successful Board Performance

10.1 Board Policy Review

10.1.1 Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising. Is there a need to review the Policy?

Trustee Doherty-Masters confirmed review of Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising and confirmed compliance, however requested that it be returned to the Governance Committee to amend the first line to read 'Catholic rate payers.' Chair Sikora proposed that the policy be sent to Governance for a review aimed at enhancing the last paragraph. Chair Sikora then called for a mover and seconder to affirm compliance.

Recommendation to send the policy to the Governance Committee for review.

2024-123-- It was moved by Trustee Doherty-Masters and seconded by Trustee Weiler:

THAT the Board of Trustees reviewed Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising and find that the Board is in compliance.

--- Carried by consensus

11 Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12 Potential Agenda Items

13 Announcements

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events

Chair Sikora reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

13.2 Pending Items: N/A

13.3 Pending Items for OCSTA Consideration: N/A

14 Items for the Next Meeting Agenda

14.1 Chair Sikora reviewed upcoming agenda items.

15 Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight.

15.1 The Recording Secretary confirmed decisions made tonight.

15.2 Trustees moved into Double In Camera meeting at 7:53 p.m.

**2024-124 -- It was moved by Trustee Kraft and seconded by Trustee Francis:
THAT the Board of Trustees move into a Double In Camera meeting.**

--Carried by consensus


16 Closing Prayer

16.1 Closing prayer.

17 Motion to Adjourn

2024-125-- It was moved by Trustee Guerin and seconded by Trustee Cuff:

THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 10:40 p.m.



Chair of the Board



Secretary