



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

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John Macri, Board Chairperson

REGULAR BOARD MEETING Tuesday, September 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre John Paul II Boardroom

MINUTES

PRESENT

Trustees:

F. Alexander	P. Keane
J. Courtney, Vice-Chair	J. Macri, Chair
M. DiMenna	S. Porcellini
B. Holland	L. Soulliere
C. Janisse	
L. Willson, Student Trustee	

Regrets:

Rev. L. Brunet, Board Chaplain

Administration:

J. Berthiaume (Resource)	S. Freeman
M. Iatonna	K. Gignac
P. Marchini	R. Limarzi
J. Ouellette	P. Littlejohns
M. Seguin	P. Picard
L. Staudt	E. Poirier

Recorder:

D. Steffens

1. Call To Order – Chair Macri called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer – Trustee DiMenna led the opening prayer.
3. Recording of Attendance – All trustees present. Fr. Brunet sent regrets.
4. Approval of Agenda

Amendments:

- Addition: 12c St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School (Windsor) – Updated Comprehensive Facility Audit

Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee Keane that the September 26, 2006 Regular Board meeting agenda be approved as amended. *Carried.*

5. Questions Pertaining to Agenda – None.
6. Disclosure of Interest - Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act. – None.
7. Presentations – None.
8. Delegations
 - a. Delegation Regarding Items Not on the Agenda – None.
 - b. Delegations Regarding Items On the Agenda – None.
9. Action Items
 - a. Approval of Minutes
 - i) Minutes of In-Camera Meeting, September 12, 2006
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the minutes of the In-Camera meeting of September 12, 2006 be adopted as distributed. Carried.
 - ii) Minutes of Regular Meeting, September 12, 2006

Amendments:
 - Correction to Page 2: The dates of Minutes approved under 9b(i) and (ii) should read August 29, 2006.
 - Amendment to Page 4: The final motion pertaining to agenda item 12a Trustee Porcellini’s Notice of Motion amended to read, “*Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the motion be deferred pending a report from administration at the October 24, 2006 Regularly Scheduled meeting. Carried.*”

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 12, 2006 be adopted as amended. Carried.
 - b. Items From In-Camera Meeting of September 26, 2006

Vice Chair Courtney reported that the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board convened a closed Committee of the Whole meeting on September 26, 2006 pursuant to the Education Act - Section 207, to obtain legal advice, consider specific personnel, real property issues and other matters permitted or required to be kept private and confidential under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Trustees Courtney and Porcellini declared a conflict of interest during the In-Camera Session and excused themselves from the relevant discussion item.

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the recommendations and directions of the Committee of the Whole Board at its meeting of September 26, 2006 be approved. Carried.

Vice Chair Courtney made the following announcements:

- The appointment of Cory McAiney to the position of Technological Studies Department Head at St. Anne Catholic High School.

10. Communications

a. External (Associations, OCSTA, Ministry)

- i) Memorandum from the Ministry of Education, dated September 12, 2006
re: Provincial Symposium: The Character Development Initiative

Superintendent Staudt indicated that the Character Development Initiative has been designed by the Ministry to complement student success initiatives and to enhance academic achievement. Superintendent Staudt indicated that the concept of character development is an inherent part of the Catholic curriculum and graduate expectations.

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Memorandum from the Ministry of Education, dated September 12, 2006 re: Provincial Symposium: The Character Development Initiative be received as information, and that Trustee Holland attend the Provincial Symposium as part of the local Board Team. Carried.

b. Internal (Reports from Administration)

- i) Report: Administrative Staff Report
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the Board receive the *Administrative Staff Report* on hiring, retirement and resignation of staff dated September 26, 2006 for information. Carried.
- ii) Report: 2006 Budget Report

Superintendent Marchini reported that the last budget report brought to the Board on May 23, 2006 forecasted a deficit of \$807,000. At that time, administration was anticipating a benefit premium rebate in the amount of \$670,000 that would offset the majority of the deficit with the remainder of the projected deficit to be recovered by using some of the Board's working fund reserve account. Superintendent Marchini noted that the latest preliminary year-end estimate indicates that the Board may have to draw \$193,697 from the reserve fund in order to balance the year-end. It was noted that the reserve funds have already been earmarked for use in the 2006-2007 budget and that some adjustments may be needed to take that into account. Superintendent Marchini indicated that several 2005-2006 grants need to be analyzed prior to finalizing the yearend financial statement and any adjustments that need to be made to the 2006-2007 budget will be addressed as soon as possible. Superintendent Marchini reported that the Ministry is expecting many school boards to have deficits this fiscal year and the new Minister of Education is aware the province will need to move quickly to revamp the funding model.

Moved by Trustee Janisse and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the Board receive the 2006 Budget Report as information. Carried.

- iii) Verbal Report: Citizens' Advisory Committee on Trustee Honoraria – Status Report

Superintendent Marchini reported that the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Trustee Honoraria will be meeting on Wednesday, September 27.

11. Unfinished Business

- a. Deferred from August 29, 2006 to September 26, 2006: Notice of Motion – Trustee Porcellini: “*At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, I will move or cause to be moved that the Board establish a series of oversight committees, chaired by trustees, not limited to budget, capital, etc., to report regularly to the Board in public session.*”

Trustee Porcellini deferred this Notice of Motion to the October 10, 2006 meeting.

12. New Business

- a. Field Trips:

- i. St. Anne Catholic High School – Kincardine/Owen Sound/Port Elgin
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the Board approve the St. Anne Catholic High School's Owen Sound, Port Elgin, Kincardine, Ontario Field Trip for the Harvesting of Salmon Eggs for their school hatchery for two days falling somewhere between the end of September 28 to early October 5 or 12, 2006. Carried.

- ii. 2006 Fall Muskoka Woods Leadership Experience
Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee Alexander that the Board approve the 2006 Fall Muskoka Woods Leadership Experience field trip. Carried.

- b. Report: Province-Wide Symposium on Catholic Education

Director Berthiaume reported that the Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) is hosting a Catholic education symposium entitled *Navigating in Turbulent Waters, Together in Faith* on November 24 and 25. Catholic boards across Ontario have been invited to assemble a local team to participate in the dialogue. The purpose of the event is to identify current issues within the Church and Culture that are shaping Catholic education, to discern what makes and keeps us Catholic within Catholic schools, to study the changing nature and role of the Ontario Catholic school in a multi-faith society and to engage in dialogue concerning the challenges facing Ontario public Catholic education today. Trustees Holland and Keane volunteered to participate on the local team.

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the Board receive the report *Province Wide Symposium on Catholic Education* and identify a trustee(s) to participate on the Board Team attending the Symposium. Carried.

c. WALK-ON: St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School (Windsor) – Updated Comprehensive Facility Audit

Superintendent Marchini reported that the Ministry has indicated that there will be an official memorandum within the next few weeks that identifies approximately 200 “prohibitive to repair” schools across the province. It is anticipated that Board’s will be required to develop and submit a business plan by the end of November either to provide for the replacement of schools identified on the list or to justify a request to add a school to the list. In order to prepare for the development of a business plan for St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School, which the Board identified as prohibitive to repair in February 2005, an updated Facility Audit report for the school is required. The 2005 Facility Audit identified approximately \$2.5 million in repairs or renovations. An updated Facility Audit is required that will consider any cost implications of modifying or retrofitting the existing facility to conform with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act which was enacted in June 2005 and revise the cost estimation of capital renovations and repairs that reflects the current market conditions in Essex County. Letters of support from school and community stakeholders are also a crucial component of the business plan. A meeting will be held at the school tomorrow night to update the school community.

Superintendent Marchini will distribute a copy of information recently received from the Ministry regarding Capital Planning and inquire with the Ministry as to the process boards must follow to receive community input on capital budgets.

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board commission Jacques Whitford Limited to provide an update of the February 2, 2005 Comprehensive Facility Audit for St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School (Windsor), to include current costs for capital renovations and improvements, and any additional capital costs associated with implementation of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. Carried.

13. Committee Reports – None.

14. Notice of Motion

- Trustee Courtney – *“At the next regular scheduled meeting of the Board, I will move or cause to be moved, that administration prepare a full report outlining the current status of the music program in our system. This report shall include the schools participating, individual school programs being offered, and the present staffing component. It should also explore the feasibility of hiring a qualified individual to oversee the program practically and administratively.”*

15. Remarks and Announcements

- a. Chairperson Macri – No remarks.
- b. Director of Education Berthiaume commented on the September 19 Ontario Catholic Schools Trustees’ Association (OCSTA) Fall Regional Meeting which was also attended by Trustees Keane and Porcellini. Director Berthiaume indicated that all trustees are

encouraged to attend a Commissioning Ceremony for School Council Chairs will be held on Thursday, October 19 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Assumption Chapel, school principals and school council chairs will be invited to participate. Director Berthiaume reminded trustees of the Grand Opening and Official Blessing Ceremony of the new St. Joseph's Catholic High School which has been scheduled on Sunday, October 1, at 2:00 p.m. Director Berthiaume commented on the Public Consultation Meeting for the School Boundary Review which was held on Monday, September 25 indicating that approximately 60 school community members were present at the information session.

c. Board Chaplain – Sent regrets this evening.

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

- Trustee Janisse asked that Superintendent Ouellette speak to him about an out of boundary issue and asked that Superintendent Iatonna provide an update on the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 process. Trustee Janisse congratulated schools within his area for doing extremely well in last year's EAQO Assessment.
- Trustee Keane thanked Facilities Services for their quick response to the water leak at the former Basilian Residence and the flooding issue at St. John Catholic Elementary School. Trustee Keane asked that Superintendent Iatonna keep all trustees apprised of the corrective measures being recommended for a long term solution at St. John's. Trustee Keane thanked the staff at St. Francis Catholic School for organizing a golf outing to raise funds for the school. Trustee Keane commented on the recent OCSTA Fall Regional meeting and stressed the importance of Catholic ratepayers taking the time to check their tax assessment to ensure they are still designated as an English Catholic school supporter. Trustee Keane indicated that whenever property exchanges hands or tenants of properties, such as university residence, the tax designation defaults to "English Public school." If this is the case, Catholic electors lose their right to vote for Catholic school board representation. Trustee Keane asked that a letter of welcome be sent to new Minister of Education Kathleen Wynne.
- Trustee Alexander gratefully acknowledged and thanked his colleagues for supporting the motion tonight to revisit the issue of rebuilding St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School.
- Trustee Holland asked that trustees be provided with additional information for the October 19 Commissioning of School Council Chairs and reminded trustees to rsvp for the Official Opening and Blessing Ceremony for St. Joseph's Catholic High School.
- Trustee DiMenna congratulated the staff leaders of the Muskoka Woods Leadership Experience program on their recent school information meetings.
- Student Trustee Willson commented on his attendance at the recent Dr. Jane Goodall speaking events indicating that her work has inspired him to organize a group of students to get involved in ways to help the environment. Student Trustee Willson announced the first Student Senate Retreat will be held on October 2 at the Holy Family Retreat House in Oxley.

17. Pending Items

- a. Deferred from June 27, 2005: Board Policy Review Committee – Board Policy Revisions: *A:12 Code of Ethics / Conflict of Interest (Amended Policy)*
- b. Deferred from September 12, 2006 to October 24, 2006: Motion: *"Moved by Trustee Porcellini and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board, in adherence with Policy A:21 Child Care, require all daycare service providers housed in Board schools to be not-for-*

profit, and further, that the Board encourage those daycare service providers that are currently for profit and housed in our system, to complete the conversion process prior to March 31, 2007, after which all contracts for the provision of daycare services by any for profit providers will be terminated and subject to tender, for award and installation by July 1, 2007.“

- c. Deferred from August 29, 2006 and September 26 to October 10, 2006: Notice of Motion – Trustee Porcellini: *“At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, I will move or cause to be moved that the Board establish a series of oversight committees, chaired by trustees, not limited to budget, capital, etc., to report regularly to the Board in public session.”*

18. Continuation of In-Camera – Not required.

19. Future Board Meetings: (unless stated otherwise all meetings will be held at the Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre - 1325 California Avenue, Windsor)

- Tuesday, October 10, 2006
- Tuesday, October 24, 2006 (preceded by Mass at 5:00 p.m. in Assumption Chapel)
- Tuesday, November 14, 2006
- Tuesday, November 28, 2006
- Tuesday, December 5, 2006 (Organizational Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – preceded by Mass)
- Tuesday, December 12, 2006
- Tuesday, January 16, 2007
- Tuesday, January 30, 2007
- Tuesday, February 13, 2007
- Tuesday, February 27, 2007
- Tuesday, March 13, 2007 (tentative due to March Break)
- Tuesday, March 27, 2007
- Tuesday, April 10, 2007
- Tuesday, April 24, 2007
- Tuesday, May 8, 2007
- Tuesday, May 22, 2007
- Tuesday, June 12, 2007
- Monday, June 25, 2007

20. Closing Prayer – The meeting closed with a prayer.

21. Adjournment - There being no further business, the Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2006 adjourned at 7:50 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

Approved.

John Macri
Board Chairperson

Joseph Berthiaume
Director of Education & Secretary