

*Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board  
Meeting of the Committee of the Whole – Tuesday, May 19, 2009*

**PRESENT AT MEETING:**

**Trustees:** Dennis Blake, Dan Dignard, Bonnie McKinnon,  
Joe McPherson and June Szeman

**Student Trustee:** Chris Radojewski

**Administration:** Cathy Horgan, Director of Education and Secretary  
Wally Easton, Associate Director and Treasurer;  
Bill Chopp, Trish Kings, Chris Roehrig, Superintendents of Education and  
Linda Luciani, Recording Secretary

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair June Szeman..

**OPENING PRAYER:**

The meeting was opened with a prayer. Superintendent of Education, Bill Chopp read a Memorial Statement about Amal Audi, an educational assistant at Holy Family Catholic Elementary School.

**B. ROUTINE MATTERS:**

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Dan Dignard, that the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the agenda of the May 19, 2009 meeting.

CARRIED

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Nil.**

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Joe McPherson and Dennis Blake, that the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 21, 2009.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nil.**

**C. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS: Nil.**

## **D. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **D.1 APPROVED MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING FROM APRIL 8, 2009**

Trustee Dennis Blake reported that a Case Conference Package has been developed for parents to assist them during this process and the Package has been very well received. The Package will be presented at the Regional Special Education Committee meeting in May. A *Who is Nobody* project has been piloted in a few of our schools. Child and Youth Workers are using the *Nobody* kits in schools, where needed. A presentation will be made to the Rotary Club to seek financial support in purchasing more kits.

#### **Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Joe McPherson, that the Committee of the Whole receive the approved minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting from April 8, 2009.

CARRIED

### **D.2 APPROVED MINUTES FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING FROM APRIL 30, 2009**

Trustee Dennis Blake reported that information regarding the development of the 2009-10 budget has been posted on the Board's website and stakeholders can comment and provide input on the budget through the website. The projected budget reflects a shortfall of approximately \$878,000. Staff are currently reviewing expenditures to determine areas which can be reduced. The Ministry will be announcing grant monies, in the near future, which may assist the Board in balancing the budget. Trustee Blake thanked staff members for their careful attention to the budget and expenditures.

#### **Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Joe McPherson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the approved minutes from the Budget Committee Meeting of April 30, 2009.

Approval was requested for the following recommendations:

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Budget Procedures Manual report.

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Draft Expenditures report.

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve and refer the recommendations from the Budget Committee Meeting of April 30, 2009 to the Board.

CARRIED

**D.3 UNAPPROVED MINUTES FROM THE CATHOLICITY COMMITTEE MEETING FROM MAY 13, 2009**

Chair June Szeman reported the Committee had developed the following themes for the upcoming school years:

2009-10: Because We Believe, Our Catholic Faith Comes Alive in our Hearts.

2010-11: Because We Believe, Our Catholic Faith Comes Alive in our Schools.

2011-12: Because We Believe, Our Catholic Faith Comes Alive in our World

Action items were also developed which correspond to the 2009-10 theme.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Joe McPherson and Dennis Blake, that the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved minutes from the Catholicity Committee Meeting from May 13, 2009.

CARRIED

**D.4 UNAPPROVED MINUTES FROM THE ACCOMMODATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING FROM APRIL 14, 2009**

Vice Chair Joe McPherson reported that site plans and floor plans were reviewed for the south west school. *Green* features such as heating/cooling systems, cistern rain water collecting, living walls, wind power, day lighting windows, carpooling parking spots and automatic dim lighting were discussed for the joint school. The process and time table for the Accommodation Review of St. Mary, St. Pius X and St. Bernard Schools in Brantford was reviewed with the first Public Meeting to be scheduled in October 2009. Adverse winter conditions have caused some delays in the construction of the Jean Vanier Catholic Elementary School. As a result, the demolition of the Our Lady of Fatima School, Brantford will be postponed. The Sacred Heart School, Paris property will be sold in accordance with Regulation 444/98 of the Education Act.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dan Dignard and Bonnie McKinnon, that the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved minutes from the Accommodations Committee Meeting from May 11, 2009.

Approval was requested for the following recommendations:

THAT the Accommodations Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Joint South West School, Brantford report.

THAT the Accommodations Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Accommodation Review Process report.

THAT the Accommodations Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Jean Vanier Catholic Elementary School report.

THAT the Accommodations Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the former Sacred Heart School, Paris property be sold in accordance with Regulation 444/98 of the Education Act.

THAT the Accommodations Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve and refer the recommendations from the Accommodations Committee Meeting of May 11, 2009 to the Board.

CARRIED

#### **D.5 SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS FRAMEWORK AND PROCESS 2008-09**

Superintendent of Education, Trish Kings introduced Leslie Telfer, School Effectiveness Lead who updated trustees on the work that has been undertaken to assist schools in identifying their strengths, areas requiring improvement and next steps to improve student achievement within the School Effectiveness Framework. Through District Reviews at six elementary schools, patterns and trends were identified and next steps for improvement were developed which will assist in revising the Board Improvement Plan and School Improvement Plans for 2009-10.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dan Dignard and Bonnie McKinnon, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the School Effectiveness Framework and Process for 2008-09 report.

CARRIED

#### **D.6 SUPPORTING SEAMLESS TRANSITIONS FOR THE AUTISM INTERVENTION PROGRAM TO SCHOOL**

Superintendent of Education, Bill Chopp reported that the Ministry of Education and Child and Youth Services have collaborated to provide funds for school boards to hire individuals with expertise in applied behaviour analysis (ABA) to train Board and school level personnel in assisting students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) who are in transition from the intensive behavioural intervention (IBI) supports they have received to the newer ABA program. This individual will also facilitate collaboration with service providers and schools to make seamless transitions from the Autism Intervention Program to school.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dan Dignard and Bonnie McKinnon, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Supporting Seamless Transitions for the Autism Intervention Program to School report.

CARRIED

**D.7 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS**

Superintendent of Education, Bill Chopp reported that the Special Education Department has been involved in various activities to raise awareness of mental health issues of students in our schools. Awareness activities have been planned for Mental Health Week (May 2, 2009 – May 9, 2009). Dave Szuty, Program Consultant, Information Technology was in attendance to present the digital adaptation of the story, *Hole in One* – a book written by Gayle Grass, on the topic of anxiety. The digital story was made possible through the collaboration of Dave Levac, Michael Pin, the National Orchestra of Canada, Mr. Szuty, system resource staff, parents for Children’s Mental Health, Gayle Grass and the Canadian Mental Health Association. The digital story will be used provincially by the Canadian Mental Health Association and will be forwarded to the Minister of Education.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dan Dignard and Bonnie McKinnon, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Mental Health Awareness report.

CARRIED

**D.8 BALANCED SCHOOL DAY UPDATE**

Director of Education, Cathy Horgan reported that 25 out of 32 elementary schools have implemented a balanced school day schedule. Although there is no conclusive data to link the balanced school day to student achievement, the balanced school day offers a more focused approach to school instruction. Mrs. Horgan will continue to study the benefits of the balanced school day from various perspectives.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dan Dignard and Bonnie McKinnon, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the Balanced School Day Update report.

CARRIED

#### **D.9 TWINNED SCHOOLS UPDATE**

Director of Education, Cathy Horgan reported that the twinning of schools, over the past five years, has provided the Board with an opportunity for experienced principals to mentor and direct new administrators. Given the number of years that our vice-principals have served and the training they have received, consideration should be given to de-twinning schools.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Dan Dignard, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the de-twinning of St. Cecilia's School, Port Dover and St. Michael's School, Walsh effective September 2009.

CARRIED

#### **D.10 2009-10 STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTIONS**

Superintendent of Education, Chris Roehrig noted that on April 30, 2009, elections were held for the position of Student Trustee. Six outstanding students were interviewed by the Interview Panel and Chris Radowjewski, our incumbent Student Trustee, was re-elected as the 2009-10 Student Trustee. Congratulations to Emily Miller, a student at Assumption College School, who was elected the 2009-10 Alternate Student Trustee.

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Dan Dignard, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receive the 2009-10 Student Trustee report.

CARRIED

**E. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE: Nil.**

**F. NOTICES OF MOTION: Nil.**

**G. TRUSTEE INQUIRIES: Nil.**

**H. BUSINESS IN-CAMERA:**

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Dan Dignard, that the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board move to an In-Camera session.

CARRIED

**I. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION:**

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dan Dignard and Bonnie McKinnon, that the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, approve the business of the in-camera session.

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of Joe Ernst as Acting Vice-Principal and Debbie Fullerton and Jo Skoblenick as Principals, effective September 1, 2009.

CARRIED

**J. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Trustees were invited to look over the 2008-09 Meetings and Events that were included in the agenda package.

**K. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolved:**

On the motion of Dennis Blake and Dan Dignard, that the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourn the meeting of May 19, 2009.

CARRIED