



Brant Haldimand Norfolk
Catholic District School Board

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2011 7:00 pm
Boardroom

Trustees:

Present: Cliff Casey (Chair), June Szeman (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Dan Dignard, Bonnie McKinnon, Rick Petrella, Alyna Poremba (Student Trustee)

Absent:

Senior Administration:

Cathy Horgan (Director of Education), Wally Easton (Associate Director, Corporate Services & Treasurer), Bill Chopp, Trish Kings and Chris Roehrig (Superintendents of Education), Tom Grice (Assistant Superintendent of Business)

1. Call to Order

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Cliff Casey.

2. Routine Matters

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Blake requested that his Notice of Motion (Item 6) be deferred until the February 15, 2011 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of November 30, 2010 was added as Agenda Item 2.4.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the amended agenda of the January 25, 2011 meeting.

Carried

2.2 Declaration of Interest - Nil

2.3 Approval of Minutes from the Board Meeting of December 14, 2010

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes from the December 14, 2010 meeting.

Carried



2.4 Approval of Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of November 30, 2010

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of November 30, 2010 meeting.

Carried

2.5 Business Arising from Minutes - Nil

3. Presentations and Delegations - Nil

4. Committee and Staff Reports

4.1 Board Branding Initiative

Director of Education Horgan commented that the branding initiative, which aims at developing a distinct visual way of recognizing the Board, is one of the key strategies of the Communications strand of the Strategic Plan. She introduced Stacey Sauv , Marketing Operations Manager for Accurate Design, a consulting firm from Ottawa that is currently developing the Board's branding. Communications Manager, Tracey Austin, brought trustees up to date on the initiative's progress to date, including a strong recommendation by Accurate Design to modernize the Board's logo, as the foundation of the branding project. Adaptations of the Board's current logo, as well as two new designs, were presented. Several trustees expressed concerns about changing the existing logo.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves Logo 'B', that will be used in the completion of the Branding Initiative Project.

Defeated

4.2 Accommodation Review – St. Mary School, Brantford

Director Horgan responded to the nine specific issues raised in a presentation made at the November 23, 2010 Board Meeting by Mr. Ian Rolls-Carson, Chair of St. Mary's School Council, regarding the proposed closure of St. Mary School in Brantford. Associate Director outlined the timeline of the next steps should trustees approve the motion. Chair Casey declared his intention to vote on this issue. A trustee stated that the Board is in a declining enrolment situation and that it is the Board's responsibility to be fiscally responsible with the public purse. A trustee expressed concern regarding the community's opposition to the closing of St. Mary, the strong academic record of the school, its synergy with the church, the very good condition of the facility, and the need for administrative stability. A trustee requested more research from a budget perspective and a clearer sense of future enrolment. Investigating alternatives to moving St. Mary students to Holy Cross was also requested by a trustee. Trustees also recognized that it would be unfair to the school community to delay the decision too long.



Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the closure of St. Mary School, Brantford, effective June 30, 2012 and transfers the students of St. Mary School to Holy Cross School, subject to additional public input.

Moved by: June Szeman

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT a decision on the St. Mary School accommodation review be postponed until the June 21, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Carried

4.3 Financial Statements – Year Ended August 31, 2010

Associate Director Easton reviewed various aspects of the financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2010. Mr. Easton introduced Cameron Johnston of Millard, Rouse, Rosebrugh LLP who explained that the two major changes resulting from PSAB are the reporting of tangible capital assets and full accrual accounting. After reviewing the Auditor's Report, Mr. Johnston expanded on several of the notes in the Report to Trustees contained in the written report.

Moved by: June Szeman

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2010.

Carried

4.4 Naming of New School

Bill Chopp, Superintendent of Education, reviewed the criteria and process followed to arrive at a short-list of three names for the new school currently being constructed on Blackburn Drive in Brantford. The suitability of the recommended names of All Saints Catholic Elementary School, St. Basil Catholic Elementary School, and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Elementary School has been approved by Bishop Crosby of the Diocese of Hamilton.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves St. Basil Catholic Elementary School as the name of the new school being built on Blackburn Drive in Brantford.

Carried

4.5 Audit Committee

Associate Director Easton reported that two qualified applicants responded to the advertisement for two external member positions on the new Audit Committee mandated in Section 253.1(1) of the Education Act. Mr. Easton reviewed the professional backgrounds of applicants Rosemary Gonçalves and Joseph McPherson and recommended their appointment to the Audit Committee.



Moved by: June Szeman
Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board appoints Rosemary Gonçalves and Joseph McPherson to the Audit Committee for the term February 1, 2011 to August 31, 2014.

Carried

4.6 Surplus Accommodations - GEDSB

Associate Director Easton reviewed the list of properties declared surplus by the Grand Erie District School Board and reported that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board has no need of any elementary student accommodation in these areas.

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon
Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board advises the Grand Erie District School Board that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board has no interest in the following properties:

- Former Ryerson Public School, 61 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON
- Former Riverview Public School, 10 Wade Street, Brantford, ON
- Former Townsend Central Public School, 726 Thompson Road East, Waterford, ON
- Former W.F. Hewitt Public School, 111 Bruce Street, Waterford, ON

Carried

4.7 Revised Budget Estimates: 2010-11

Associate Director Easton highlighted some of the changes made to the original budget estimates that were approved in June, 2010. Of particular note was the a net reduction of \$400,000 in General Operating grants resulting from a significant decline in expected enrolment, additional grants received to fund specific curriculum initiatives, and a reduction in transportation expenditures resulting from changes made to the transportation policy earlier this year.

Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the 2010-11 Revised Budget Estimates, in the amount of \$112,511,889.

Carried

4.8 Excursion – New York City (Culinary)

Chris Roehrig, Superintendent of Education, provided details of a proposed excursion to New York City by approximately 20 Grade 10 St. John's College Hospitality program students over the March Break.

Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the request from St. John's College for an excursion to New York City, NY from Sunday, March 12, 2011 to Wednesday, March 16, 2011.

Carried



4.9 Excursion – New York City (Arts)

Superintendent Roehrig reviewed a request for this annual St. John's College trip involving approximately 35 Grades 10-12 students to visit New York City, one of the major art centres of the world.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the request from St. John's College for an excursion to New York City from Thursday, May 19, 2011 to Monday, May 23, 2011.

Carried

4.10 Excursion – Chicago, IL

Superintendent Roehrig reviewed details of this annual trip by approximately 35 Grades 11-12 History students at Assumption College School. This year's destination is the City of Chicago.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the request from Assumption College School for an excursion to Chicago, IL from Thursday, May 5, 2011 to Sunday, May 8, 2011.

Carried

4.11 Unapproved Catholicity Committee Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2010

Vice Chair June Szeman, Chair of the Catholicity Committee, reviewed the minutes of the December 1, 2010 meeting. She highlighted the Committee's primary goals to continue to build and enhance communication between parish, home and school, as well as to continue to develop the faith dimensions of teachers and administrators, which are both goals of the Strategic Action Plan for Catholicity. A suggestion was made to invite Lou Rocha, Chair of the FACE Project, to a future Regional School Council meeting.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes from the Catholicity Committee Meeting of December 1, 2010.

Carried

4.12 Unapproved SEAC Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2010

Trustee Representative Dennis Blake reviewed the unapproved minutes of the December 8, 2010 meeting of the SEAC Committee. He commented on the recent successful move of the Special Education Department staff from the Fatima Resource Centre to their new location at Sacred Heart School in Paris.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of December 8, 2010.

Carried



4.13 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Alyna Poremba reported on an opportunity for Student Senate members to attend an upcoming Catholic Student Leadership Symposium hosted by the Niagara Catholic District School Board. She also highlighted the various Christmas celebrations and Christmas fundraisers undertaken by each of the three secondary schools.

Moved by: June Szeman

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Student Trustee Report for January, 2011.

5. Information and Correspondence:

Chair Casey reported that OSCTA is soliciting input from every Board for consultation purposes at a Strategic Planning Retreat at the end of February. Mr. Casey suggested that trustees collaborate at the February Committee of the Whole meeting in order to submit a consolidated response. Chair Casey also advised that he will provide a summary of what OCSTA is doing for various Boards and that he can make available additional information regarding these items upon request.

Director Horgan explained the need to de-twin Holy Cross and St. Mary schools in Brantford.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the information and correspondence items since the last meeting.

Carried

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board de-twins Holy Cross and St. Mary (Brantford) schools, effective February 1, 2011.

Carried

6. Notices of Motion – Nil

7. Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Szeman inquired if a review of the current mileage rate is warranted considering the significant increase in the price of fuel over the past months.

Trustee Blake reiterated his concern that the front of the Fatima Resource Centre needs to be cleaned up, i.e, tree removal and additional lighting, in order to help increase the security of the building.



8. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board moves to an in-camera session.

Carried

9. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the business from the in-camera session.

Carried

10. Future Meetings

The list of upcoming meetings and events was reviewed by Trustees.

11. Moment of Silent Reflection

12. Adjournment

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: June Szeman

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the meeting of January 25, 2011.

Carried