



Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 ♦ 7:00 pm
Boardroom

Trustees:

Present: June Szeman (Chair), Rick Petrella (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Cliff Casey, Dan Dignard,

Absent: Bonnie McKinnon, Ryan Cattrysse (Student Trustee)

Senior Administration:

Chris N. Roehrig (Director of Education & Secretary), Tom Grice (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer), Bill Chopp, Jamie McKinnon and Leslie Telfer (Superintendents of Education)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by June Szeman. Chair Szeman declared her intention to vote on all motions of the April 23, 2013 Board meeting.

1.2 Attendance – As noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the April 23, 2013 meeting.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil

2. Presentations

Six student members of the 20-member Holy Trinity Eco Team gave an informative presentation on the many activities and initiatives that are taking place at Holy Trinity as the school strives to achieve gold level in the Ontario Eco School Certification program. The presenters reviewed the findings of their Team's garbage and energy audits and the steps they have taken to address areas of concern identified in the audits. Some notable accomplishments to date include the purchase of two water stations, which has significantly increased the use of reusable water bottles, a graduating class tree planting program, increased indoor "greening", energy consumption stickers, and the first annual community clean-up day. Through various fundraising drives, the Eco Team are working towards funding future proposed projects such as establishing a school vegetable garden or greenhouse to support the Foods program, purchasing benches for an outdoor classroom, and possibly purchasing solar panels. After responding to several questions from trustees, the presenters were congratulated on their efforts, accomplishments and enthusiasm.



3. Delegations – Nil

4. Consent Agenda

- 4.1** THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the March 26, 2013 meeting.

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives all reports and approves all motions under the Consent Agenda.

Carried

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 16, 2013

Vice Chair Petrella provided a brief overview of the business of the April 16, 2013 Committee of the Whole meeting and brought forward the following recommendations for approval:

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the writing of a letter to the Minister of Education to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval. The letter would articulate the Board's concerns that capital funding is not made available to pay for required renovations to meet legislated accessibility standards.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the rescinding of the "Closure of Schools/Facilities – Temporary" Policy to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the "Inclement Weather and Temporary School/Facilities Closures" Policy to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the rescinding of the "Appropriate Dress Policy" to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the "Dress Code for Pupils Policy" to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the rescinding of the "Advertising and Materials Distribution in Schools" policy to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the "Distribution of Materials Policy" to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.



Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Cliff Casey

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School receives the unapproved minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 16, 2013.

Carried

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 16, 2013.

Carried

5.2 School Accommodation Report – Accommodation Review Committee – Brant County School

Superintendent Chopp, Chair of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) for the Accommodation Review of Blessed Sacrament, Holy Family, Sacred Heart, St. Anthony Daniel and St. Theresa schools in Brant County, provided a review of the ARC process which began in November 2012. He introduced Melodie Spencer, parent member on the ARC representing Holy Family School and Chair of the ARC Writing Sub-Committee, who reviewed the highlights of the ARC's School Accommodation Report, as submitted to Director Roehrig on February 26, 2013. Mrs. Spencer provided insight into the many factors and discussions that ultimately led to the Committee's final recommendations to close St. Anthony Daniel School as of June 30, 2014 and transfer all St. Anthony Daniel students to Blessed Sacrament School beginning September 1, 2014. Several trustee inquiries with respect to transportation, proximity to parishes, boundaries, and triple grades were responded to by Mrs. Spencer, Trustee Dignard and Superintendents Chopp and Grice who were all members of the ARC. Mrs. Spencer commented that the process was extremely fair, that Board staff provided all required information and supported the Committee throughout the process, that the school communities were kept well informed and that parents and community members were encouraged to provide input throughout the ARC process.

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the School Accommodation - Accommodation Review Committee - Brant County Schools report.

Carried

5.3 St. Anthony Daniel School Closure – Brant County Schools Accommodation Review

In response to the School Accommodation Report presented in item 5.2, Director Roehrig expressed the Board's appreciation to all members of the ARC for their time, energy, and dedication to the ARC process which included four public meetings, three working committee meetings, as well as a meeting with St. Anthony Daniel parents that was held in January. He commended the level of detail that was provided in the ARC Report, which reflects the extensive information and data that was analyzed and reviewed leading up to the ARC's recommendations. Director Roehrig advised that staff support the recommendations of the ARC. Implementing both recommendations will improve the utilization rate for Blessed Sacrament School, will lower costs over the long term and help ensure sustainable staffing levels that will lead to better programming for students. As part of the ARC process, the Board will seek further public input on Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m. prior to a final decision being made.



Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: Cliff Casey

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the St. Anthony Daniel School Closure - Brant County Schools Accommodation Review report.

Carried

5.4 2013-14 School Year Calendar

Superintendent Chopp reviewed the proposed 2013-14 school year calendars that are in keeping with the amendments made to Ontario Regulation 304. He noted that there will be 194 school days, six of which will be designated Professional Activity days.

Moved by: Dennis Blake
Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the proposed 2013-14 School Year Calendars for Elementary schools, Secondary schools and St. Cecilia's school, as presented..

Carried

5.5 Excursion – Mission Trip to Staten Island, NY

Superintendent Chopp presented a revised report regarding a proposed mission trip to Staten Island New York, whereby approximately 20 secondary students will assist the Mennonite Disaster Service with small construction and clean-up projects in the aftermath of last fall's Hurricane Sandy. He provided additional information regarding the student application process, the criteria used to evaluate applications and recommend potential participants, and the approval process for both student participants and chaperones.

Moved by: Cliff Casey
Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the request from Assumption College School, Holy Trinity Catholic High School and St. John's College for an excursion mission trip to Staten Island, NY from Saturday, June 15 to Friday, June 21, 2013.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

Director Roehrig made available information on three upcoming system events: 1) the Special Education Department April 26 PA Day program; 2) invitation to the Board Art Exhibits from May 1-3; and 3) invitation to the Celebration of the Arts performances on May 7.

Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Rick Petrella

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

Carried

7. Notices of Motion

Trustee Casey presented the Notice of Motion that he made at the April 16, 2013 Committee of the Whole meeting, as follows:

THAT surveys be conducted in both Haldimand and Norfolk Counties to assess the viability of offering an early French Immersion program in those areas.



Discussion ensued. Trustees Casey and Blake pursued the possibility of conducting an interest survey in Haldimand and Norfolk counties to determine if this type of programming would be supported by families in those areas. Director Roehrig maintained that staff does not recommend proceeding with an investigation at this time as current French Immersion programming in the public system are under-utilized, and because additional information regarding potential sites, etc., would need to be determined prior to doing a survey. Staff recommends that the current focus be on studying and potentially implementing an early French Immersion program in the North end of Brantford.

Moved by: Cliff Casey
Seconded by: Dennis Blake
Defeated

8. Trustee Inquiries - Nil

9. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Cliff Casey
Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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

10. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: Cliff Casey

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

11. Future Meetings

A listing of upcoming meetings and events was reviewed.

12. Closing Prayer

A closing prayer was recited in unison.

13. Adjournment

Moved by: Dan Dignard
Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the meeting of April 23, 2013.
Carried