



Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 10, 2013 ♦ 7:00 pm
Boardroom

Trustees:

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

Absent:

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 Trustee Casey.

1.2 Attendance – As noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Chair Szeman advised that she would be giving her inaugural address during Presentations, and that the order of reports 5.3 and 5.4 would be reversed.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the December 10, 2013 meeting, as amended.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil

2. Presentations

Newly-elected Chair Szeman gave her inaugural address to the Board. She commented that “our schools are places where our students can grow in their faith life as they grow in their academic and physical attributes in an accepting yet challenging environment that aims to maximize the potential of each.” She noted that the Board continues to nurture its Catholicity objectives in all aspects of school and administrative life, is moving ahead on achieving its Student Achievement objectives, and has maintained a balanced budget despite Ministry short-funding and declining enrolment. Chair Szeman added that the Board does not take lightly its decisions to amalgamate or close schools, but that these decisions are always made for the betterment of all pupils across our system. She expressed the Board’s pride in the new St. Pius School building, the growing Continuing Education program now housed at St. Mary Catholic Learning Centre, as well as the ambitious growth and overhaul in the area of information technology. In closing, Chair Szeman commented that she looks forward to working with all Trustees and Senior Administration in achieving the goals of the Board and expressed appreciation to Director Roehrig for his support and leadership, as well as to senior staff for their tireless efforts in the areas of academic and business excellence, and spiritual formation.



In introducing the native carvings presentation, Chair Szeman explained that seven students from Assumption College School and Jean Vanier Catholic Elementary School worked with Chris Green, a Native Carver from Ohsweken, spending one evening per week over a period of four months to learn the art of native stone carving and to discover more about native culture. She welcomed Mr. Green to the meeting and thanked him for the gift of his time and guidance to the students during this initiative. Chair Szeman introduced Dante Dalia, Co-Operative Education and OYAP Co-Ordinator, who gave a pictorial presentation of the students as they progressed on their works of art. Mr. Green responded to several trustee inquiries and Mr. Dalia commented that Native Art could potentially be offered as a credit course in the future.

Chair Szeman extended the Board's congratulations to three students whose art works were selected for the 2013 Board Christmas cards. She explained that over 300 cards are sent out across the province annually and that the winning students would receive a supply of their card design for their own personal use. Trustee Dignard extended the Board's congratulations to Sondra Emery, a Grade 7 student at St. Leo School, while Trustee Blake congratulated Taylor Cooper, a Grade 12 at St. John's College for her accomplishment. Cait Banfield, a Grade 12 student at Holy Trinity Catholic High School was unable to be present.

3. Delegations – Nil

4. Consent Agenda

- 4.1 THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the October 22, 2013 meeting.
- 4.2 THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of December 3, 2013.
- 4.3 THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of November 13, 2013.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

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 Policy Committee Meeting of November 26, 2013

Trustee Blake reviewed the business of the November 26, 2013 Policy Committee meeting and brought forward the following recommendations for approval:

THAT the Policy Committee recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the revised Home Instruction policy.



THAT the Policy Committee recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board rescinds the Universal Design for Accessibility Policy 400.12.

THAT the Policy Committee recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Communication on Behalf of the Board policy.

THAT the Policy Committee recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Access to Legal Counsel policy.

THAT the Policy Committee recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Trustee Conflict of Interest policy.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School receives the unapproved minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of November 26, 2013.

Carried

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School approves the recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting of November 26, 2013.

Carried

5.2 Financial Statements – Year Ended August 31, 2013

Vice Chair Petrella, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported that Cameron Johnston of Millard, Rouse and Rosebrugh had reviewed the financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2013 with the Audit Committee and that the Committee recommends approval of the Statements. He reported that the Board had a successful 2012-13 year resulting in an operating surplus of approximately 1.5% of budget, and explained the various factors that contributed to the surplus. Vice Chair Petrella noted that Board Auditors found no accounting issues or internal control problems and thanked the auditing staff, as well as the staff of the Finance Department, for their hard work in completing the financial statements. Discussion ensued and questions were addressed by Superintendent Grice. The surplus will be discussed at an upcoming Budget Committee meeting.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Financial Statements – Year Ended August 31, 2013.

Carried

5.3 Early French Immersion Program Update

Superintendent Telfer reported that as a result of the limited response to the Board's online survey to ascertain the interest level in the community for a potential Early French Immersion Program at St. Leo's School, staff recommends that the Board does not proceed with offering this programming at this time. An amendment to the proposed motion indicating that the Board accepts staff's recommendation was proposed by Trustee Blake, seconded by Trustee Casey and was carried.



Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Early French Immersion Update report and accepts staff's recommendation.

Carried

5.4 Audit Committee Fiscal Year Report – 2012-13

Vice Chair Petrella, Chair of the Audit Committee, reviewed the highlights of the Committee's work during 2012-13 and advised that under Regulation 351/10, the Audit Committee's Fiscal Year Report would be submitted to the Ministry of Education.

Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: Cliff Casey

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Audit Committee Fiscal Year Report – 2012-13.

Carried

5.5 Financial Literacy in the Ontario Curriculum Update

Superintendent Telfer provided an overview of the responses to the Financial Literacy online survey, which all Grades 4-12 teachers were encouraged to participate in. As a result of the feedback, a Financial Literacy Focus Group has been formed to respond to requests for additional support and resources, i.e., sample lesson plans and activities, to assist teachers in better integrating financial literacy in their daily instruction.

Moved by: Cliff Casey
Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Financial Literacy in the Ontario Curriculum update report.

Carried

5.6 St. Mary Catholic Learning Centre – Site Utilization

In response to an earlier request by trustees, Superintendent McKinnon provided a schematic overview of the utilization of the St. Mary Catholic Learning Centre site, which houses Alternative Education, Supervised Alternative Learning, Home Instruction, the gifted and international languages programs, as well as behavioural and special education staff, a principal and the OYAP/Co-Op Coordinator. Vice Chair Petrella commended staff on the excellent usage of the building, as well as the success of the Continuing Education programs and support services located at the St. Mary site.

Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the St. Mary Catholic Learning Centre – Site Utilization report.

Carried



5.7 Integration Committee Update – Blessed Sacrament and St. Anthony Daniel Schools

Superintendent Chopp, Chair of the newly-formed Integration Committee, reported on the membership of the Committee and the business that will be discussed at the Committee's initial meeting scheduled for January 7, 2014. The Committee's goals are to ensure the smooth transfer to St. Anthony Daniel students to Blessed Sacrament School in September 2014 and to assist with the positive integration of the two schools communities.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Integration Committee update report for Blessed Sacrament and St. Anthony Daniel schools.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

Director Roehrig advised that the Board had received a note of appreciation from the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association for the \$1,440 donation they received in support of their Toonies for Tuition Endowment Fund. The monies were collected at the Hamilton Diocesan Mass in Celebration of Catholic Education hosted by our Board in October.

Director Roehrig distributed an information flyer which summarizes the key components of the Grades 1-12 Religious Education Programs.

Chair Szeman advised that the Registrar from the Ontario College of Teachers will make a presentation to trustees in April 2014 regarding the role of the College.

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

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

Carried

7. Notices of Motion – Nil

8. Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Dignard commented on the re-energized push for a one-school system in Ontario. Director Roehrig provided an update on possible strategies and actions that are being considered in support of the Catholic education system. Trustee Casey commented that parents need to be able to vocalize the importance of Catholic education.

9. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

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: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

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

Carried

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Cliff Casey

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Principal Pool Appointments report.

Carried

11. Future Meetings

A listing of upcoming meetings and events was reviewed. Trustee Blake invited all trustees to attend the Joint SEAC meeting being held with the Grand Erie District School Board scheduled for December 11, 2013 at 7:00 pm. Barry Finlay from the Ministry of Education will be presenting.

12. Closing Prayer

A closing prayer was recited in unison.

13. Adjournment

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the meeting of December 10, 2013.

Carried