



Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, April 16, 2013 ♦ 7:00 pm
Boardroom

Trustees:

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

Absent: Bonnie McKinnon

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 prayer led by June Szeman. Chair Szeman declared her intention to vote on all motions of the April 16, 2013 Committee of the Whole meeting.

1.2 Attendance – As noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil

2. Presentations

Chair Szeman extended the Board's congratulations to Paula Dunn, Manager of Human Resources, as well as her department staff and school staff across the system who work tirelessly to maintain a safe and healthy work environment. The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board was recently recognized at the School Boards' Co-Operative Inc. (SBCI) Annual General Meeting with a *Best Overall Board Award* for Small-Sized Boards for 2011-12, a category in SBCI's Safety Leadership Awards Program. As a leader in safety performance statistics among small-sized boards across the province, the Board was commended for having 50% less workplace accidents than the average performance of all other small-sized boards over the past five years.

3. Delegations - Nil



4. Consent Agenda

- 4.1 THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the March 19, 2013 meeting.
- 4.2 THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 20, 2013 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.
- 4.3 THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Board of Directors' Special Meeting of March 25, 2013 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.
- 4.4 THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of April 8, 2013 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.
- 4.5 THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Catholic Education Advisory Committee meeting of April 9, 2013 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

With reference to the minutes referenced in Item 4.3, Trustee Casey inquired if bus evacuation training could be conducted annually at every school rather than on a three-year rotational basis.

Superintendent Grice advised that the STSBHN Board of Directors is looking into alternate training methods, i.e., videos, which could be used on an "as needed" training basis or as a refresher.

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of 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 March 26, 2013

Trustee Blake, Chair of the Policy Committee, reviewed the business of the March 26, 2013 Policy Committee meeting and presented the following recommendations for consideration:

THAT the Policy Committee recommends 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 Policy Committee recommends 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 Policy Committee recommends 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 Policy Committee recommends 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 Policy Committee recommends 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 Policy Committee recommends 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 Policy Committee recommends 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: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of March 26, 2013 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the recommendations of the Policy Committee Meeting of March 26, 2013 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

Carried

5.2 Adolescent Literacy

Superintendent McKinnon advised that although adolescent literacy is a relatively new Ministry initiative, a significant amount of work has been done in the area of literacy to bridge the gap between the elementary and secondary panels through “cross-panels” workshops, involving a diverse group of Grades 7-10 teachers. Superintendent McKinnon introduced Lindsay Craig, Student Achievement Consultant – Literacy 7-12 and Peter Marchand, System Literacy Teacher 7-8, who provided an overview of their work in supporting intermediate teachers through collaborative workshops. Highlights included gaining a better understanding of elementary and secondary learning environments, using the Ministry’s *Adolescent Literacy Guide* to build teaching capacity, developing “common language” that is consistent across the grades, linking strategies to goals of the Board Improvement Plan, becoming familiar with both the Grade 6 EQAO and Grade 10 OSSLT assessments, and identifying key learnings. Once the cross-panel workshops are completed, a reference resource from the group’s work will be published to help guide instructional practice of intermediate teachers system wide. Several questions from trustees were responded to and the work of Ms. Craig and Mr. Marchand commended.



Moved by: Cliff Casey
Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Adolescent Literacy report.

Carried

5.3 Early French Immersion Investigations

Director Roehrig responded to a request made by trustees at the March 19, 2013 Special Meeting of the Board, to assess whether or not an investigation should be conducted in Haldimand and Norfolk counties to determine the viability of offering an early French Immersion program in these counties. Director Roehrig outlined the rationale for staff not recommending a feasibility study in the Haldimand and Norfolk Counties at this time. Discussion ensued, and the following Notice of Motion was put forward by Trustee Casey for discussion at the April 23, 2013 Board meeting:

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

5.4 Financial Report as of February 2013

In his quarterly report to the Board regarding the year-to-date budget, Superintendent Grice reported that the budget is on track, with 48.2% of the total budget spent.

Moved by: Rick Petrella
Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Financial Report as of February 2013 report.

Carried

5.5 Board Enrolment Update as of March 31, 2013

Superintendent Grice reported on the annual March 31st enrolment report to the Ministry of Education, which impacts the grants that are allocated to the Board. In the elementary panel, the actual Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) is six students higher than projected, while in the secondary panel, the actual ADE is 4.38 students higher than projected. Superintendent Grice drew trustee attention to the variance in enrolment numbers since June 30, 2012, which confirms that enrolment has in reality declined by 111.5 students system-wide. Discussion took place regarding factors that impact enrolment. Concern was expressed regarding enrolment decline in Haldimand County.

Moved by: Cliff Casey
Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Board Enrolment Update as of March 31, 2013 report.

Carried

5.6 Educational Funding for 2013-14

Superintendent Grice reviewed the highlights of the 2013-14 Grants for Student Needs (GSN) for 2013-14, as announced by the Ministry of Education at the end of March, and outlined the impact of the announcement on various areas of the Board.



Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Education Funding for 2013-14 report.

Carried

5.7 Excursion – Mission Trip to Staten Island, NY

Superintendent Chopp presented a request for a Mission Trip to Staten Island, NY involving approximately 20 secondary students who will assist the Mennonite Disaster Service with small construction and clean-up projects in the aftermath of last fall's Hurricane Sandy. Trustees requested clarification and additional information, including the application criteria, as well as the selection and approval process. The following motion was made:

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the motion regarding the Mission Trip to Staten Island, NY be deferred until the April 23, 2013 Board meeting, pending receipt of additional information.

Carried

5.8 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Cattrysse provided an update on the upcoming spring Student Leadership symposium and summer retreat. Student senators are working on developing a common theme for both retreats. He also noted that student council elections will be taking place in the near future, and shared highlights of recent and upcoming events at all three secondary schools.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Student Trustee Report.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

Director Roehrig provided copies of two Parent Guides published by the Ministry, "Reading and Writing with Your Child K-6" and "Doing Mathematics with Your Child K-6" that are being distributed to all families. He also handed out a copy of "Dignity of the Human Person and Homosexuality", the first of several monographs being developed and published to assist staff in dealing with difficult issues in schools related to faith.

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Cliff Casey

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

Carried

7. Notices of Motion – as noted in Item 5.3.



8. Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Casey drew attention to an article published in the Sunday Sun on April 14, 2013 titled, "Religious Bullying". An electronic copy will be sent to all trustees.

Trustee Casey advised that he had received an inquiry regarding before and after school care programs in Norfolk. Superintendent Telfer provided an update and will send trustees details of all programs across the Board in the near future.

9. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Dennis Blake

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: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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

Carried

11. Future Meetings

A list of future meetings and events for trustees was reviewed.

12. Closing Prayer

A closing prayer was recited in unison.

13. Adjournment

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the meeting of April 16, 2013.

Carried