



Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, March 18, 2014 ♦ 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 prayer led by Student Trustee Athanasiou.

1.2 Attendance – As noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the March 18, 2014 meeting.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil

2. Presentations - Nil

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 February 18, 2014 meeting.

4.2 THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of February 12, 2014 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 Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting of February 24, 2014 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 Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Board of Directors' meeting of February 25, 2014 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 Mental Health Leadership Team meetings of February 26 and March 6, 2014 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

With respect to Item 4.4, Superintendent Grice provided a brief overview of a presentation made by T. Dias, a parent from Norfolk County, at the February Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Board of Directors' meeting with respect to inclement weather, cold weather guidelines, and bus cancellations. He explained that the Consortium is taking Ms. Dias' input into consideration, are currently doing research regarding other models, and will be reviewing procedures in the coming months. Recommendations will be brought to the Board, likely in October 2014.

Referencing Item 4.3, Trustee Blake received clarification from Superintendent McKinnon that the Advanced Placement program will be introduced at Holy Trinity Catholic High School in the fall of 2014, with a planned implementation date of September 2015, depending on student interest and availability of staff to teach the Advanced Placement course(s).

Moved by: Dan Dignard

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 Trustee Determination and Distribution – 2014 Elections

Superintendent Grice advised that in preparation for the municipal elections to be held in October 2014, school boards are required to report to the Ministry the number and distribution of trustees based on the electoral population, and to determine whether or not to designate a trustee to low population areas. Based on ratepayer calculations, staff recommends no changes to the current number or distribution of trustees, and there is no need to designate a trustee to a low population area. Discussion ensued with respect to the declining electorate base, challenges in ensuring that eligible Catholic voters are registered as English-Separate School Supporters with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), and ways in which the Board can be more proactive in this area. Director Roehrig will research best practices by other Boards, and Vice Chair Petrella suggested this concern be raised at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association in April 2014.



Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the following:

1. THAT, for purposes of the 2014 election, the number of trustees is determined to be six.
2. THAT, for purposes of the 2014 election, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board has not designated any low population areas within its jurisdiction.
3. THAT, for the purposes of the 2014 election, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board has determined the distribution of trustees to be two trustees for the City of Brantford, two trustees for the County of Norfolk, one trustee for the County of Brant, and one trustee for the County of Haldimand.

Carried

5.2 Excursion – Glasgow, Scotland

Superintendent Chopp presented a request from St. John's College for approximately 30-40 Grades 11-12 members of the school's rugby team to travel to Glasgow, Scotland. Students will participate in a rugby competition and will be given the opportunity to gain a better understanding and appreciation of Scotland's culture and customs. He added that rugby is becoming a more prominent sport and that both male and female students in all three secondary schools are developing notable skills in this sport.

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the request from St. John's College for an excursion to Glasgow, Scotland from Friday, March 14, 2015 to Sunday, March 23, 2015.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 Proposed OCSTA Amended and Restated By-Law 2014-01

Chair Szeman received trustee feedback on the proposed OCSTA Amended and Restated By-Law 2014-01, which will be considered at the April OCSTA Annual General Meeting.

6.2 Trustee Conference Attendance

Trustee Blake reiterated his earlier proposal that, for reasons of fiscal responsibility and restraint, trustees should limit their attendance at conferences to one or two major conferences per year. This item will be considered at the April 23, 2014 Budget meeting.



6.3 Media Relations

Director Roehrig provided an update on recent staff discussions with the Simcoe Reformer regarding accurate, fair and objective reporting. Going forward, Director Roehrig advised that staff are planning summer meet-and-greet sessions with all media contacts in Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk in an effort to foster positive relations and to assist the media in better understanding the complexities of education.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

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 – Nil

8. Trustee Inquiries

In response to Trustee Casey's inquiry, Director Roehrig will arrange for trustees to receive training on the use of Twitter at a future Board meeting.

9. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole of 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: Rick Petrella

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

Carried

11. Future Meetings

The list of remaining 2013-14 meetings and events for trustees was reviewed.

12. Closing Prayer

A closing prayer was recited in unison.

13. Adjournment

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the meeting of March 18, 2014.

Carried