



Brant Haldimand Norfolk
Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, April 15, 2014 ♦ 7:00 pm
Boardroom

Trustees:

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

Absent: June Szeman (Chair)

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 Trustee McKinnon.

1.2 Attendance – As noted above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

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 15, 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 March 18, 2014 meeting.

4.2 THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the unapproved minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of March 19, 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 Mental Health Leadership Team meeting of March 26, 2014 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

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 Primary Core French as a Second Language Update

Superintendent Telfer provided an update on the first year implementation of teaching Core French in Grades 1-3. Based on the positive feedback received from teachers and students in the seven schools piloting the program, and in support of the new *Call to Action* program, a Framework for French as a Second Language in Ontario Schools, the goal is to increase the number of schools from seven to possibly fourteen schools in 2014-15, depending on staff scheduling and school organizations. In response to trustee inquiries, Superintendent Telfer advised that the program is offered through prep time four times in a 5-day cycle in 50-minute blocks and confirmed that the program represents no additional cost to the Board.

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Primary Core French as a Second Language Update report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.2 Board Enrolment Update as of March 31, 2014

Superintendent McKinnon reviewed the March 31, 2014 enrolment numbers, which are used by the Ministry to calculate the Average Daily Enrolment for grant purposes. Discussion regarding possible reasons for ongoing declining enrolment in certain schools took place. In response to Trustee Casey's inquiry, Superintendent Grice provided an update on possible future land purchases to support new school construction projects in projected growth areas.

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Board Enrolment Update as of March 31, 2014 report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.3 Financial Report as of February 2014

In his quarterly report to the Board regarding the year-to-date budget, Superintendent Grice reported that the budget is on track, with 49.5% of the total budget spent.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Financial Report – February 2014 report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried



5.4 Education Funding for 2014-15

Superintendent Grice advised that the education funding announcement was made on March 27, 2014 in advance of the provincial budget being released. He reviewed the highlights of the announcement and their potential impact on the Board. Discussion regarding future changes to the High Needs Amount calculation, which should benefit our Board, as well as the Ministry's focus on consolidating/closing schools and promoting a more efficient use of school space took place.

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Education Funding for 2014-15 report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.5 Christmas Card Contest

Director Roehrig provided an overview of the Christmas Card Contest since 2007-08 and advised that, moving forward, the Principal responsible for the Arts Program will champion the program to ensure that it is well promoted, with a focus on quality submissions as well as appropriate timing to meet Christmas mailing deadlines. Trustee Blake recommended that the contest be open and promoted to all secondary school students, not just those in Arts classes in the fall semester, and that submission guidelines be very specific. Discussion regarding elementary and secondary submissions, the types of acceptable media, and the value of this program for a Catholic school board were topics of discussion.

Moved by: Bonnie McKinnon

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Christmas Card Contest report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 Catholic Ratepayers – Best Practices

In response to a request from trustees at the March meeting, Director Roehrig advised that he has canvassed Catholic boards across the province for best practices with respect to ensuring that individuals who are eligible to be Catholic ratepayers are listed correctly with MPAC. Some initial feedback has been received, which Director Roehrig will follow-up on to obtain more specifics. He will provide further information at the next meeting.

6.2 Director Roehrig distributed copies of a series of recent articles published in the Hamilton Spectator titled, *Unequal Education*.

6.3 Acting Chair Petrella commented on the unsatisfactory response received from OCSTA with respect to the resolution the Board submitted at the 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM). Trustees indicated their support of this concern being raised at the 2014 AGM next week.



- 6.4** Superintendent Telfer distributed copies of two articles published in the Spring/Summer 2014 edition of *Best Start Brantford/Brant*: 1) *Kindergarten: Understanding Child Development*, authored by Lisa Kuyper, Early Years Consultant and Elementary Principal, and 2) *Parent Facilitator: Preparing Children for School and Beyond*, authored by Kathy Przednowek, Parent Facilitator at the Christ the King Parenting and Family Literacy Centre.

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

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**

Trustee Blake requested that a report be brought to Board in the future with respect to the School Cash Online program.

- 9. Business In-Camera**

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

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: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Bonnie McKinnon

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

Carried

- 11. Future Meetings**

The list of upcoming meetings was reviewed.

- 12. Closing Prayer**

A closing prayer was recited in unison.

- 13. Adjournment**

Moved by: Cliff Casey

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the meeting of April 15, 2014.

Carried