



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

1325 California Avenue, Windsor, Ontario N9B 3Y6
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Michael B. Moher, Director of Education John Macri, Board Chairperson

REGULAR BOARD MEETING Tuesday, September 14, 2004 Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre 1325 California Avenue, Windsor

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Trustees:

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| J. Courtney, Vice-Chair | P. Keane |
| M. DiMenna | J. Macri, Chair |
| B. Holland | L. Soulliere |
| C. Janisse | |
| Rev. L. Brunet, Board Chaplain | |
| Natalie Deschamps, Student Trustee | |
| Emily Limarzi, Student Trustee (Alternate) | |

Regrets:

F. Alexander, S. Porcellini

Administration:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| M. Moher, Resource | P. Littlejohns |
| J. Berthiaume | C. Marier |
| J. Ouellette | K. Gignac |
| P. Marchini | E. Poirier |
| T. Halford | L. Staudt |
| T. Robins | |

Guest Presenters:

Bruno and John Bortolotti, J. P. Thomson Associates Ltd.
Don Joudrey - Stantec Consulting
Rod Strickland - Green Corridor / University of Windsor
Noel Harding, Toronto

Recorder:

D. Steffens

1. Call To Order – Chair Macri called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer and Blessing of New Student Trustee Representatives

Father Brunet opened the meeting with a special blessing for the incumbent student trustee representatives Natalie Deschamps and Emily Limarzi as they commence their duties for the coming school year.

3. Recording of Attendance – Trustees Alexander and Porcellini sent regrets.

4. Approval of Agenda

- Amendment: Move agenda Item 11(b) New Pupil Place Grant Project – St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School to agenda item 7(a)
- Addition: 8(a) (i) Delegations Not on the Agenda: Huron Church Road Overhead Pedestrian Bridge

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the September 14, 2004 Regular Board meeting agenda be approved as amended. *Carried.*

5. Questions Pertaining to Agenda – None.

6. Disclosure of Interest- Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act. – None.

7. Presentations

a. New Pupil Place Grant Project – St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School

On April 13, 2004, the board voted to close the current St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School and rebuild a new 300 pupil capacity school on the existing site, if possible. In accordance with Ontario Regulation 444/98, all statutory bodies were notified that St. Anthony School was available for sale or lease. Negative replies have been received from all parties including the Ontario Realty Corporation.

Bruno and John Bortolotti of J. P. Thomson Associates Ltd. presented the proposed site plan and schematic drawings for the new St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School. A new St. Anthony Elementary School will cost approximately \$4,876,000. The project will be funded through New Pupil Place Grants (NPPG's) generated by the closure of the existing facility.

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the Board instruct administration to proceed with the design of St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School in Harrow, on the current site. *Carried.*

8. Delegations

a. Delegation Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

i) Huron Church Road Overhead Pedestrian Bridge (Walk On Agenda Item)

Don Joudrey of Stantec Consulting, Rod Strickland of the Green Corridor Group/ University of Windsor and Canadian artist Noel Harding were in attendance to provide an update on the planning for the Huron Church Road Overhead Pedestrian Bridge. In March 2004, the governments of Canada, Ontario and Windsor announced new measures as part of a joint \$300 million federal-provincial investment to help improve the Windsor Gateway. Part of the initiative includes the construction of a pedestrian overpass near the intersection of Huron Church Road and Girardot Street (by Assumption College Catholic High School.)

Mr. Jourdrej, Stantec Consulting, indicated that initial public consultation has occurred and an environmental assessment is in progress. The Green Corridor Group has been identified by the City of Windsor to assist with the design features. Several design options were presented to the Board and will be presented to the City of Windsor within the next two weeks. Rod Strickland from Green Corridor Group was present along with Noel Harding, to provide an overview of the Green Corridor objectives and to share the advantages of an “Educational Nature Bridge” as the overpass design. Representatives of the Board and Assumption College Catholic High School have raised concerns with regard to keeping the Fire Access Route open; visibility of the school from Huron Church Road, and the distance of bridge from the current crosswalk. The presenters responded to trustees concerns with regard to the above and to the need to have a safe crossing for the school community as quickly as possible. Mr. Jourdrej indicated that, once environmental assessment process has been completed, the overhead pedestrian bridge would take 6 to 12 months to complete.

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the presentation Huron Church Road Overhead Pedestrian Bridge be accepted as information. Carried.

b. Delegations Regarding Items On the Agenda – None.

9. Action Items

a. Approval of Minutes

i) Minutes of the Special In-Camera Meeting, August 31, 2004

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Holland that the minutes of the In-Camera meeting of August 31, 2004 be adopted as distributed. Carried.

ii) Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 31, 2004

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Holland that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 31, 2004 be adopted as distributed. Carried.

b. Items From In-Camera Meeting of September 14, 2004

Trustee Courtney reported that the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board convened a closed Committee of the Whole meeting on September 14, 2004, pursuant to the Education Act - Section 207, to consider specific personnel and real property issues and other matters permitted or required to be kept private and confidential under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Moved by Trustee Courtney and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the recommendations and directions of the Committee of the Whole Board at its meeting of September 14, 2004 be approved. Carried.

10. Communications

- a. External (Associations, OCSTA, Ministry) – None.
- b. Internal (Reports from Administration)
 - i) Report: Administrative Staff Report
Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the Board receive the Administrative Staff Report on hiring, retirement and resignation of staff dated September 14, 2004 for information. Carried.
 - ii) Report: Legal Services – July 2004
Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the report Legal Services – July 2004 be received as information. Carried.

11. Unfinished Business

- a. Report: 2004/2005 Fiscal Year Budget – Final Approval (*report was distributed at the August 31 Regular Board Meeting*)

Superintendent Marchini reported that additional input was received from St. Anne French Immersion Elementary School, which will be discussed at the next executive council meeting. Director Moher reported that he has left an inquiry with the Assistant Deputy Minister's office with regard to a response to the Board's correspondence of August 16 and the loss of Intensive Support Amount (ISA) special education reserves. The Intensive Support Amount (ISA) is provided for students who meet the Ministry's criteria for high-cost specialized programs and services.

Trustees requested that administration revise the budget report to include a pre-“clawback” budget that indicates which planned initiatives have been eliminated due to the loss of reserves. The Board will continue to convey its displeasure of this action to the Ministry of Education and local elected officials. Trustees agreed to amend the original motion to include: “... while conveying its resolute objection to the Ministry of Education's unjust clawback of ISA funding of \$2.3 million which will result in special education service deficits for our students.”

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board approve the expenditures and revenue budget for the fiscal year budget – September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005 in the amount of \$203,951,854 while conveying its resolute objection to the Ministry of Education's unjust clawback of ISA funding of \$2.3 million which will result in special education service deficits for our students. Carried.

- b. Report: New Pupil Place Grant Project – St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School

This item was discussed under 7(a).

12. New Business

a. Field Trip Requests

i) Holy Names Catholic High School – Northern Edge Algonquin

Moved by Trustee Courtney and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the Board approve the Holy Names Catholic High School Northern Edge Algonquin field trip for September 29 to October 2, 2004. Carried.

b. Notice of Motion - Trustee Soulliere “At the next regular scheduled meeting of the Board, I shall move or cause to be moved that the Board establish an internal expert Kindergarten Program Panel of no more than four members to: evaluate the existing program based on successful student rates; survey our community and take input from focus groups within the system; make recommendations to the Board on its Kindergarten Programs; report progress by-monthly to the Board until the Panel’s final report can be provided to the Board; and, that the financial impacts be considered.”

Superintendent Ouellette indicated that many initiatives outlined in the motion are addressed on an ongoing basis. In addition, the Ministry has mandated several curriculum initiatives that currently involve our primary teaching and support staff. Trustee Soulliere agreed to the following amendment of the notice of motion.

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Courtney that administration prepare a report, to be presented to the Board no later than February 2005, that provides a framework to evaluate the existing Kindergarten program, including the appointment of an internal committee to facilitate the process and timelines for reporting program recommendations to the Board. Carried.

13. Committee Reports – None

14. Notice of Motion

Trustee Courtney: “At the next regular scheduled meeting of the Board, I shall move or cause to be moved that the board approve the immediate appointment of a campus minister at for St. Michael’s Alternate High School and its satellite campuses; in keeping with past and current practice of employing Campus Ministers in all our secondary schools.”

15. Remarks and Announcements

a. Chairperson – No comments.

b. Director of Education

- Enrolment Update: Director Moher reported that September enrolment is stable across the system. Elementary enrolment has decreased by approximately 100 FTE and secondary enrolment has increased by the same amount.

c. Board Chaplain – Encouraged those present to attend the First Annual Bishop’s Dinner Fund Raising Event on October 28.

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

Trustee Holland commented on upcoming OECTA conference “Join in the Dance.” Trustees were asked to provide input for this year’s “Together in Faith Day” prior to the Committee’s meeting on September 16. Trustee Holland inquired into the possibility of a fall meeting of principals, priests and parish workers.

Trustee Keane commented on recent visits to schools within his area.

Trustee DiMenna thanked the staff and parents at St. John de Brebeuf Elementary School for their efforts over the Labour Day weekend to prepare the facility for the first day of school.

Trustee Courtney commended Lorne Sauve, Manager of Transportation and the Transportation department for their work in co-ordinating student bussing for the start of the new school year.

Alternate Student Trustee Limarzi conveyed her support for the Green Corridor’s “Nature Bridge” Overhead Pedestrian crossing design concept and invited trustees to Assumption Catholic College carwash on September 18.

17. Pending Items – None.

18. Continuation of In-Camera – Not required.

19. Future Board Meetings: (unless stated otherwise all meetings will be held at the Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre - 1325 California Avenue, Windsor)

- Tuesday, September 28 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 12 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 26 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 9 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 23 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 7 – 7:00 p.m. (Organizational Meeting)
- Tuesday, December 14 – 7:00 p.m.

20. Closing Prayer - Father Brunet closed the meeting with a prayer

21. Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

John Macri
Board Chairperson

Michael Moher
Director of Education & Secretary