



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, March 8, 2005 Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre 1325 California Avenue, Windsor

MINUTES

PRESENT

Trustees:

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

Administration:

M. Moher (Resource)	J. Byrne
J. Berthiaume	P. Littlejohns
P. Marchini	C. Marier
J. Ouellette	E. Poirier
	T. Robins

Recorder:

D. Steffens

1. Call To Order - Chair Macri called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer – Fr. Brunet opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. Recording of Attendance – All trustees present.
4. Approval of Agenda
 - Addition: Item 6a New St. Anne Catholic High School
 - Defer: Item 7a – Board Policy Review Committee Presentation
 - Addition: Agenda item 8b(i) St. Bernard New School Committee regarding item 12b Notice of Motion. This item was re-numbered to item 7b
 - Renumber agenda item 12b Notice of Motion to 7c
 - Renumber agenda item 7b Literary/Numeracy Initiatives to 7d

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the March 8, 2005 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.

a. New St. Anne Catholic High School

Chair Macri briefly reported on the Town of Lakeshore's March 7 public meeting where their Council considered a rezoning amendment for the proposed new St. Anne Catholic High School site. Representatives for both the Public and Catholic school boards expressed concern with regard to applying due diligence to local traffic patterns and ensuring the safety of students. Chair Macri indicated that the Catholic Board intends to extend an invitation to the Greater Essex County District School Board and officials of the Town of Lakeshore to meet and collaboratively resolve outstanding planning issues.

7. Presentations

a. Board Policy Review Committee Presentation – This item was deferred.

b. St. Bernard New School Committee representatives Shawn Lappan and Rev. Matthew Kucharski were present to convey the school community's support of the notice of motion to initiate a process to rebuild St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School (Windsor).

c. Trustee Alexander Notice of Motion from February 22, 2005 - Director Moher reported that the previous provincial funding model and the process to close and construct replacement schools is no longer applicable. Instead, under the new Good Places to Learn initiative, the Ministry will establish a list of 120 schools that they designate as too expensive to repair. The Ministry is expected to publish the list of replacement schools following the October 2005 submission of Capital Plans by school boards across the province.

The recent facility audit of St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School, demonstrated that the school meets the threshold of prohibitive to repair. i.e., the cost of repair is over 60% of rebuilding cost. Members of the school community were encouraged to lobby their local members of parliament in order to increase government awareness of the need to allocate funds to replace the school facility.

Trustee Alexander agreed to amend the notice of motion as follows:

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Holland that in view of the St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School (Windsor) facility audit, administrative recommendations and the newly released Ministry of Education Capital Funding Initiatives, the Board immediately begin the process to lobby the Ministry to include this school as one of the 120 replacement schools that are prohibitive to repair. Carried unanimously.

d. Education Foundations Program Literacy & Numeracy Initiatives - Elaine Poirier, Supervisor of Curriculum provided an overview of the Board's initiatives to address the Ministry of Education's "Education Foundations Program." The Ministry's goal is to have 75% of all grade six students reach high levels in reading, writing, mathematics and comprehension by 2008. Last year, the Board was provided with approximately \$400,000 to provide capacity

building sessions for principals and teachers with respect to instruction in reading, writing and mathematics from kindergarten to grade six. This year, the Board was successful in securing an additional \$190,000 through enhanced student achievement grant proposals submitted to the Ministry.

8. Delegations

- a. Delegation Regarding Items Not on the Agenda – None.
- b. Delegations Regarding Items On the Agenda – This item was discussed under item 7b.

9. Action Items

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - i) Minutes of In-Camera Meeting, February 22, 2005
Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Keane that the minutes of the In-Camera meeting of February 22, 2005 be adopted as distributed. Carried.
 - ii) Minutes of Special In-Camera Meeting, February 28, 2005
Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Keane that the minutes of the Special In-Camera meeting of February 28, 2005 be adopted as distributed. Carried.
 - iii) Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 22, 2005
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 22, 2005 be adopted as distributed. Carried.
- b. Items From In-Camera Meeting of February 28 and March 8, 2005

Vice-Chair Courtney reported that the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board convened a special closed Committee of the Whole meeting on February 28, 2005, and a closed Committee of the Whole meeting on March 8, 2005 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 DiMenna that the recommendations and directions of the Committee of the Whole Board at its meeting of March 8, 2005 be approved. Carried.

Vice-Chair Courtney made the following announcements:

- Approval of extension of retirement for Anne Pike for one additional year
- Appointment of Rosemary McDougall to the position of 2005 Summer School Principal

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 and retirement of staff dated March 8, 2005 for information. Carried.*
- ii) Report: Good Places to Learn – Capital Renewal Needs March 2005

Director Moher summarized the recent government announcement *Good Places to Learn* that provides a funding mechanism for improving and renewing aging school facilities. In stage one of the four phased funding initiative, the Board will receive \$588,780 annually to fund the interest and principal payments on an \$8,094,000 capital renewal debenture. This year, over forty schools are identified to receive improvements to roofing, heating and cooling, windows lighting and flooring. The projects, identified and prioritized through input from school principals, 2003 provincial ReCAPP data and previous Board planning documents, match the criteria established under stage one of the grant guidelines. The Board's Good Places to Learn – Capital Renewal Needs March 2005 document, also identified other major repairs, not permitted under the Good Places to Learn initiative, which will be funded through existing annual School Renewal Grants. Trustees provided comments related to improvement priorities at specific schools for consideration in stages one and two of the proposed renewal strategy.

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the report *Good Places to Learn Capital Renewal Needs* be received as information. Carried.

11. Unfinished Business – None.

12. New Business

- a. Trustee Soulliere Notice of Motion from February 22, 2005

Trustee Soulliere indicated the intent of the motion is to enhance accessibility of the French Immersion program to all students by expanding the program to a cross-section of existing schools throughout the county. Trustee Soulliere agreed to amend the proposed motion, in response to Trustee concerns about a public perception of pre-emptively designating schools, as follows:

That the Board begin evaluating the opportunity to expand its French Immersion program to include a program at each of St. John the Baptist Elementary School, Belle River; St. John de Brebeuf Elementary School, Kingsville; and, St. Joseph Elementary School, River Canard and/or such other schools as may be determined by the committee. Upon Board approval, a committee consisting of the principal or his/her designate from each of the named schools as well as the principal from St. Anne French Immersion School, school council representation from each of the four schools, Trustee(s) and administrative support, as required, be established to gauge community support and interest, determine availability of staff, space, transportation and general matters relating to the feasibility of the program at each proposed location with a final report of the Committee to be brought to the Board by

October 2005 to allow for proper initiation of any new program(s) with the JK/SK enrolment for the 2006 school year.

Additional discussion occurred around the proposed committee structure, the study process, the necessity for administration involvement and the timelines of the Board receiving the report.

Moved by Trustee Courtney and seconded by Trustee Alexander that the notice of motion the deferred to the next Board Meeting to take into account comments by Director and Trustees with regard to the process. *Defeated.*

Trustee Soulliere agreed to further amend the motion as follows:

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board consider expanding its French Immersion program and that a committee be established consisting of Trustee(s) and administration to conduct a feasibility study with a final report presented to the Board by the end of this school year. *Carried.*

- b. Trustee Alexander Notice of Motion from February 22, 2005 – This item was discussed under item 7c.
- c. Report: Canada Day Designation
Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Alexander that the Board approve designation of the following days as Canada Day: Ten-Month Support Staff Employees – June 30, 2005; and, Twelve-Month Employees – July 1, 2005. *Carried.*
- d. Field Trips:
 - i) St. Anne Catholic High School – Montreal, Quebec
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Keane that the Board approve the St. Anne Catholic High School field trip to Montreal for the study of Catholic Culture and Spiritual Pilgrimage from April 21st to 24th, 2005. *Carried.*
 - ii) Stella Maris Catholic Elementary School – Bark Lake - Irondale, Ontario
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Keane that the Board approve the Stella Maris Catholic Elementary School field trip to Bark Lake for Leadership and Team Building Training on May 11 to 13, 2005. *Carried.*
 - iii) St. Theresa Catholic Elementary School – Muskoka Woods Sports Camp
Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Keane that the Board approve the St. Theresa Catholic Elementary School field trip to Muskoka Woods for Leadership and Team Building Training on May 24 to 27, 2005. *Carried.*

13. Committee Reports

- a. Report: Board Policy Review Committee – Policy Revisions

A:17 Education Research & Related Surveys (amended policy)

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board approve amended policy A:17 Education Research & Related Surveys. *Carried.*

F:01 Donations (amended policy)

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the Board approve amended policy *F:01 Donations*. Carried.

H:13 HIV Presence in Employees (amended policy)

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board approve amended policy *H:13 HIV Presence in Employees*. Carried.

SC:02 Fundraising (amended policy)

Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the Board approve amended policy *SC:02 Fundraising*. Carried.

- b. Report: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) - Minutes of January 27, 2005 Meeting

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board receive the minutes of the January 27, 2005 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting as information. Carried.

14. Notice of Motion

- Trustee Porcellini: *“At the next meeting of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board I will move or cause to be moved, that the Board request from administration two reports detailing and discussing the enrolment pressures facing St. Anne French Immersion Catholic Elementary School and Catholic Central High School, identifying possible solutions and next steps.”*
- Trustee Porcellini: *“At the next meeting of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board I will move or cause to be moved, that the Board request administration prepare a report identifying and discussing the impact a new Begley School will have on enrolment at Immaculate Conception Catholic Elementary School.”*

15. Remarks and Announcements

- a. Chair Macri indicated he had no comments this evening.
- b. Director of Education – Director Moher reported that the Muskoka Woods Sports Resort received an Ontario Government Grant to provide a physical activity program to school boards across the province. The \$31,000 Communities In Action Fund Grant will enable the Muskoka Woods Sports Resort and the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board as a volunteer collaborator, to adapt and promote a designed physical activity program based on our Board’s Muskoka Leadership Experience program to the province’s 72 school boards.
- c. Board Chaplain - Father Brunet commented on the recent rezoning meeting for St. Anne Catholic High School and the need to work toward, in collaboration with our coterminous board and the Town of Lakeshore, a common ground that best serves the needs of students in both Boards.

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

- Trustee Janisse commented on the use of budgeted professional development monies, and congratulated St. Anne Catholic High School on the recent basketball championship.
- Trustee Keane congratulated principals and staff on the high retention numbers with regard to grade eight students electing to pursue a Catholic secondary education.
- Trustee Alexander congratulated teacher Lisa LaBute who has been selected by Heart Health Action Windsor Essex as recipient of the “Heart Health Hero 2005 – Education Sector” in recognition of her personal and professional commitment to promoting physical activity in the school environment.
- Trustee Soulliere thanked trustees and administration for attending the Town of Lakeshore’s rezoning meeting and indicated she is looking forward to additional meetings with the Public Board and officials of the Town of Lakeshore.
- Trustee DiMenna congratulated the staff and students of St. Thomas of Villanova Catholic High School for the successful theatrical production of Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Coat.

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, March 29, 2005 – 7:00 p.m. (**NOTE NEW DATE**)
- Tuesday, April 12, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 26, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 10, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 24, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 14, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 27, 2005 – 7:00 p.m. (**NOTE NEW DATE**)

20. Closing Prayer – Fr. Brunet closed the meeting with a prayer.

21. Adjournment - There being no further business, the Regular Meeting of the Board of March 8, 2005 adjourned at 9:55 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

John Macri
Board Chairperson

Michael Moher
Director of Education & Secretary