



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

1325 California Avenue, Windsor, Ontario N9B 3Y6

Telephone: (519) 253-2481
Michael B. Moher, Director of Education

Fax: (519) 253-0620
John Macri, Board Chairperson

REGULAR BOARD MEETING Tuesday, August 30, 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
Student Trustee A. Kishek	

Regrets:

Fr. L. Brunet, C. Janisse, Student Trustee (Alternate) J. Devos

Administration:

M. Moher (Resource)	T. Halford
J. Berthiaume	P. Littlejohns
P. Marchini	C. Marier
J. Ouellette	T. Robins
S. Freeman	L. Staudt
K. Gignac	

Recorder:

D. Steffens

1. Call To Order - Chair Macri called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer – The meeting opened with a prayer.
3. Recording of Attendance –Trustee Janisse, J. Devos (Student Trustee Alternate) and Father Brunet sent regrets.
4. Approval of Agenda
Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the August 30, 2005 Regular Board meeting agenda be approved as distributed. Carried.
5. Questions Pertaining to Agenda – None.

6. Disclosure of Interest - Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

Trustee Porcellini declared an interest in agenda item 10 b(i) Administrative Staff Report due to her husband's employment and did not participate in the discussion or vote on the motion. Trustees Porcellini and Courtney declared an interest in agenda item 12b 2005/2006 Operating Fund Budget/Capital Fund Budget as it pertains to the classroom envelope; however, it was subsequently determined a conflict was not present.

7. Presentations – None.

8. Delegations

a. Delegation Regarding Items Not on the Agenda – None.

b. Delegations Regarding Items On the Agenda – None.

9. Action Items

a. Approval of Minutes

i) Minutes of In-Camera Meeting, June 27, 2005

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the minutes of the In-Camera meeting of June 27, 2005 be adopted as distributed. Carried.

ii) Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 27, 2005

Amendment: Page 3 item 8(a) Special Education Advisory Committee Delegation – Commentary amended to add that the psychological services in the Learning Support Services department will be reviewed as part of the report updating the Board on the status of the Expert Panel Recommendations for Learning Support Services.

Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2005 be adopted as amended. Carried.

b. Items From In-Camera Meeting of August 30, 2005

The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board convened a closed Committee of the Whole meeting on August 30, 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. Trustee Porcellini declared a conflict of interest in the August 30, 2005 In-Camera Session and excused herself from the relevant discussion item.

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 August 30, 2005 be approved. Carried.

Vice-Chair Courtney made the following announcements:

- the appointment of Doug Sadler to the position of Business/Social Science Department Head at F.J. Brennan Catholic High School, effective September 6, 2005
- the appointment of David Petro to the position of Math Department Head at Cardinal Carter Catholic High School, effective September 6, 2005, and
- the appointment of Patrick Hickson as Acting Vice Principal at Catholic Central High School for the 2005-2006 school year.

10. Communications

- a. External (Associations, OCSTA, Ministry) – None.
- b. Internal (Reports from Administration)
 - i) Report: Administrative Staff Report

Superintendent Berthiaume reported on the 2005 – 2006 recruitment indicating that the Board has hired 49 elementary teachers and 30 secondary teachers. Of the 79 teachers hired to permanent positions, 58 (73.4%) were hired from the occasional teachers list. One hundred teachers have added to the occasional teachers list. Trustee Porcellini declared an interest in this item and did not vote on the recommendation.

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the Board receive the *Administrative Staff Report* on hiring, retirement and resignation of staff dated August 30, 2005 for information. *Carried.*

- ii) Report: Staffing Adjustments 2005/2006

Superintendent Ouellette reported that the Ministry of Education Memorandum 2005:B5: Education Funding for 2005-06 outlined changes to education funding for the 2005- 06 school year. These changes were finalized late in June and have resulted in additional elementary and secondary staffing for the upcoming school year. Trustees sought clarification on the Ministry grant guidelines and on the elementary pilot school based music instruction and pilot school based specialist teachers for Daily Quality Physical Education. A presentation by the staff involved in the pilot programs will be provided to the Board in the fall. An administrative report and recommendation to continue and/or expand the program will be presented to the Board in December should the pilot programs prove to be successful. An expansion of the programs would assist the Board in proactively meeting its compliance with provincially mandated prep-time over the next two years.

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board receive the report on Staffing Adjustments 2005/06 as information. *Carried.*

Opposed: Trustee Soulliere

- iii) Report: Trustee Attendance January to June 2005
Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the Board receive the report *Trustee Attendance – January to June 2005* as information. Carried.

- iv) Report: Guest Speaker from South Africa – Lionel Davis

Superintendent Ouellette reported that Mr. Lionel Davis, a former political prisoner from Robben Island, South Africa, will be speaking to intermediate and senior students in the fall about his experience with Apartheid, the importance of education, acceptance of others and triumphing over insurmountable obstacles. It was suggested that an invitation to the diocese and pastoral ministers.

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the Board receive the report: Guest Speaker from South Africa – Mr. Lionel Davis as information,

and, that the transportation costs for all grade 7 and 8 students to attend the presentation be covered through the Board budget. Carried.

11. Unfinished Business – None.

12. New Business

- a. Report: Selection of Construction Manager - St. Anne's Catholic High School
Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the following Board motion be entered into the Minutes as a matter of record: "Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the Board approve the successful Request for Proposal submission from Oscar Construction Company Ltd. for the "Construction Manager at Risk" new St. Anne's Catholic High School project and that a Canadian Construction Documents Committee (CCDC) contract be issued upon Board approval." Carried.
- b. Report: 2005/2006 Operating Fund Budget/Capital Fund Budget

Superintendent Marchini provided an overview of the 2005/2006 Operating Fund Budget/Capital Fund Budget. The overall Operating Fund Budget is estimated to be \$212.5 million, including \$3.2 million for school renewal, which for the purpose of this report, has been incorporated into the Capital Fund Budget. The Operating Fund Budget includes several new board and Ministry initiatives while providing a surplus position of \$349,100. Capital Fund projects totalling \$50 million include the construction of St. Joseph Catholic High School \$22,500,000 excluding land acquisition costs of \$4,500,000, the commencement of construction of St. Anne's Catholic High School at \$20,300,000 (final completion cost estimated at \$32 million), \$4,000,000 in Good Places to learn – Stage 1 (\$4,000,000 expended in 04/05) and \$3,200,000 allocation for School Renewal Programs. Trustees sought clarification on specific budget categories including special education, LET teachers, vice principal allocations, Learning Opportunity Grants and retirement gratuities. Superintendent Marchini will provide trustees with a line-by-line copy of the budget for review of specific envelope allocations prior to the submission of the November estimates.

It was determined that a conflict was not present for Trustees Courtney and Porcellini with respect to the classroom budget.

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board adopt the 2005-2006 Classroom Operating Fund Budget Expenditures for the elementary and secondary panels as presented in the amount of \$209,388,230

and, that the Board adopt the 2005-2006 Capital Fund Budget expenditures as presented in the amount of \$50,000,000.

Moved by Trustee Soulliere to defer the approval of the 2005/2006 Operating Fund Budget/Capital Fund Budgets until trustees have had an opportunity to review the budget line by line. *No seconder*

Original motion carried. Opposed: Trustee Soulliere

- c. Report: Appointment of Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Representatives **Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Keane that the Board approve the appointment of Claudio Del Duca to the Special Education Advisory Committee, representing the Board's High School Council, and Michelle Del Duca as the Alternate member for the High School Council. Carried.**
- d. Notice of Motion - Trustee Soulliere from June 27, 2005: *"At the next Board meeting, I shall move or cause to be moved that the Board add two (2) more psychologists to its psychology department for a total of four (4), and that the cost be applied to the general budget to offset the cost of educational assistant lunch supervisor to the Special Education budget."*

Trustee Soulliere indicated she will defer this notice of motion to a future date.

- e. Notice of Motion - Trustee Holland provided a brief preamble outlining the rationale to her notice of motion made at the June 27 Board meeting. The motion pertains to maintaining Catholicity in the secondary schools when approximately 40% of the students are non-Catholic. The intent of the administrative report is to explore the feasibility of providing more than one campus minister at each of the secondary schools regardless of the size in order to enhance faith development opportunities for the secondary school communities.

Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee Courtney that administration prepare a report exploring the expansion of the Campus Ministry Program in our Catholic secondary schools which would include special accommodations for St. Michael's Alternate High School. Carried.

- f. Notice of Motion - Trustee Courtney provided a brief preamble outlining the rationale to her notice of motion made at the June 27 Board meeting explaining that Catholics in Newfoundland and Labrador have lost the right to publicly funded, faith-based education. The intent of the motion is to share ideas and explore ways in which our system and school community can assist the three remaining privately funded schools.

Trustee Courtney agreed to amend the motion to include referring the matter to the Ontario Catholic Schools Trustees' Association (OCSTA) for consideration of providing support to the Newfoundland schools at a provincial level.

Moved by Trustee Courtney and seconded by Trustee Holland that a Committee of trustees and administration be appointed to creatively explore the resources that exist within this Board which could be of assistance to the three struggling Catholic schools in Newfoundland. This Committee would communicate with the St. Clair Catholic District School Board to investigate the possibilities of merging our respective efforts in this endeavour,

and, further that this matter be referred to the Ontario Catholic Schools Trustees' Association (OCSTA) for consideration of providing support to the Newfoundland schools at a provincial level. Carried.

g. Fieldtrips:

i) Holy Names Catholic High School – Northern Edge Algonquin

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Porcellini that the Board approve the Holy Names Catholic High School – Northern Edge Algonquin field trip for October 5 to 8, 2005. Carried.

13. Committee Reports – None.

14. Notice of Motion – None.

15. Remarks and Announcements

a. Chairperson Macri congratulated Superintendent Marchini, finance staff and administration for presenting a balanced budget with a small surplus.

b. Director of Education

- Director Moher reminded trustees of the St. Christopher Catholic Elementary School Rededication and Blessing which will be held on September 14, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. An Open House will be held until 6:00 p.m.
- Director Moher indicated that the new St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School is ready to open for the beginning of the school year.
- Best Start Program - Director Moher reported that over the next three years, the City of Windsor and Essex County community will receive almost 30 million dollars in federal grants to create an additional 660 child care spaces. The City of Windsor, which is overseeing this project for our community, is required to submit a plan by the end of October. A steering committee has been established to examine the needs of the various areas of the city and county, the availability of existing space in schools and the viability of adding space where required. Supervisor Steve Freeman and Superintendent Janet Ouellette represent our school system on this Steering Committee. An update will be brought to the Board for information.

c. Board Chaplain – Fr. Brunet sent regrets.

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

- Trustee Porcellini commended the staff of Catholic Central High School for their fundraising of \$9,000 to assist an ill student. Trustee Porcellini wished John Celestino well as he begins to serve a tour of duty with the Canadian Armed Forces and the United Nations in Sudan for a peacekeeping mission. Trustee Porcellini reported she had attended a couple workshops at the Summer Institute and congratulated the organizers and all those involved with the professional development sessions.
- Trustee Keane inquired into the status of replacing a greenhouse that had been removed from Assumption College Catholic High School due to construction. Trustee Keane congratulated the Facilities Services staff for all the work they have completed over the summer.
- Trustee Soulliere indicated she had attended a two-day Framework for Poverty workshop at the Summer Institute and congratulated the presenters for an outstanding session.
- Trustee Holland commented on the administrative planning document “Strategic Plan Priorities” that the Director will provide to principals tomorrow and provided suggests on various components of the Faith Pillar. Trustee Holland extended congratulations to Facility Services for the success of their recent professional development day.
- Trustee DiMenna congratulated all staff involved in the success of the recent Summer Institute and congratulated Facilities Services for their work on schools over the summer.
- Trustee Courtney congratulated administration and the staff involved for presenting a balanced budget and welcomed new Student Trustee Kishek to her first meeting.
- Student Trustee Kishek thanked everyone for the warm welcome and indicated she is looking forward to her role as Student Trustee for the new school year.

17. Pending Items

- a. Deferred from June 27, 2005: Board Policy Review Committee – Board Policy Revisions:
A:12 Code of Ethics / Conflict of Interest (Amended Policy)

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 13, 2005
- Tuesday, September 27, 2005
- Tuesday, October 11, 2005
- Tuesday, October 25, 2005
- Tuesday, November 8, 2005
- Tuesday, November 22, 2005
- Tuesday, December 6, 2005 (Organizational Meeting)
- Tuesday, December 13, 2005

20. Closing Prayer – The meeting closed with a prayer.
21. Adjournment - There being no further business, the Regular Board Meeting of August 30, 2005 adjourned at 9:20 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

John Macri
Board Chairperson

Michael Moher
Director of Education & Secretary