



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, November 8, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre John Paul II Boardroom

MINUTES

PRESENT

Trustees:

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

Regrets:

S. Porcellini, M. Moher

Administration:

J. Berthiaume (Resource)	P. Littlejohns
P. Marchini	C. Marier
J. Ouellette	P. Picard
S. Freeman	E. Poirier
C. Geml	T. Robins

Recorder:

D. Steffens

1. Call To Order - Chair Macri called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer – Father Brunet opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. Recording of Attendance – Trustee Porcellini and Director of Education Moher sent regrets. Superintendent Berthiaume provided administrative resource in the Director's absence.
4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Holland and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the November 8, 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. – None.

7. Presentations

- a. CODE Special Education Project “Improving Literacy and Numeracy for Students with Special Education Needs”

Superintendent Ouellette and Cathy Geml, Supervisor of Special Education advised trustees of a \$250,000 grant the board has received to fund a project proposal intended to improve literacy and numeracy for students with special education needs. The funding for the Special Education Project is co-ordinated through the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE). The board’s project, *A Collaborative Model for Building Instructional Capacity in Special Education Staff and Improving Achievement for All Students*, will include ten schools that have split/combined grades 2/3 and 3/4. The project supports the belief statements and recommendations of the recently released Ministry document, “Education for All: The Report of the Expert Panel on Literacy and Numeracy for Students with Special Education Needs, Kindergarten to Grade Six.”

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, October 25, 2005

Moved by Trustee Keane and seconded by Trustee Courtney that the minutes of the In-Camera meeting of October 25, 2005 be adopted as distributed. Carried.

- ii) Minutes of Regular Meeting, October 25, 2005

Moved by Trustee Janisse and seconded by Trustee Keane that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 25, 2005 be adopted as distributed. Carried.

- b. Items From In-Camera Meeting of November 8, 2005

Vice-Chair Courtney reported the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board convened a closed Committee of the Whole meeting on November 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. Trustee Soulliere declared a conflict of interest in the November 8, 2005 In-Camera Session and excused herself from the relevant discussion item.

Moved by Trustee Courtney and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the recommendations and directions of the Committee of the Whole Board at its meeting of November 8, 2005 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 DiMenna that the Board receive the *Administrative Staff Report on hiring, retirement and resignation of staff dated November 8, 2005 for information. Carried.*

ii) Report: Good Schools Open – Distant School and Rural School Allocation Report

Superintendent Marchini reported that under the Ministry's Good Schools Open Initiative, school boards received additional funding to address the issue of keeping good schools open in rural areas by providing additional financial support for the operating costs of small school, particularly staffing costs for a full-time principal and school secretary. As required by the Ministry, a copy of the report's appendices "Expenditure and Grant Analysis," for both the elementary and secondary levels, will be posted for public information on the Board's website at www.wecdsb.on.ca.

Moved by Trustee Janisse and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board receive the *Good Schools Open - Distant School and Rural Schools Allocation Report as information. Carried.*

iii) Report: Legal Services - September 2005

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Holland that the report *Legal Services – September 2005* be received as information. Carried.

11. Unfinished Business – None.

12. New Business

a. Report: Appointment of SEAC Representative (Alternate)

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board approve the appointment of Paula Nantais-Murphy to the Special Education Advisory Committee, representing The Windsor Down Syndrome Parent Association as the alternate member, for the remainder of the three year term. Carried.

b. Fieldtrips:

i) F. J. Brennan Catholic High School – Chicago, IL

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board approve the F. J. Brennan Catholic High School field trip to Chicago, Illinois on April 27 – 30, 2006 to participate in the Heritage Music Festival Band and Choir Competition. Carried.

- ii) St. Anne's Catholic High School – Washington, DC
Moved by Trustee Courtney and seconded by Trustee Janisse that the Board approve the St. Anne Catholic High School's Washington, D.C. Field Trip on May 10th – 14th, 2006 to participate in Performances for Jazz Band and Concert Choir. Carried.

13. Committee Reports

- a. Report: Ad Hoc Elementary Uniform Committee Report - Recommendations to the Board

Committee member Trustee Janisse reported that upon reviewing the submissions of the recent survey with respect to garnering the level of parental interest in the implementation of a mandatory elementary uniform, 57.8% of respondents indicated they were not in favour. Trustees thanked committee members, school council chairs and principals for their participation and assistance with the process.

Moved by Trustee Janisse and seconded by Trustee Holland that the Board receive as information the results of the survey;

and, that the Board not implement a mandatory uniform for elementary students;

and, that the Board formally bring to a close the mandate of the Elementary Uniform Committee. Carried.

14. Notice of Motion – None.

15. Remarks and Announcements

- a. Chairperson Macri - No comments this evening.
- b. Director of Education – Superintendent Berthiaume (Resource) announced that a Ground Blessing for the new St. Anne's Catholic High School has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 23 at 10:30 a.m. Trustees and the media were reminded of the system-wide Together in Faith Day that will be held the morning of December 2 at St. Thomas of Villanova and Assumption College. Superintendent Berthiaume reported that he met with Bishop Fabbro last week to discuss common areas of interest.
- c. Board Chaplain Brunet – No comments this evening.

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

- Trustee Alexander reported that he attended last week's Muskoka Woods Leadership Experience and extended congratulations to the Muskoka Woods support team and to the approximate 125 secondary students who made it such a successful faith experience.
- Trustee Soulliere reported that she attended the recent When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference. Trustee Soulliere commented on keynote speaker David Wells and indicated she would share more information on the specific workshops at a future date.

- Trustee Holland indicated she is looking forward to attending the Together in Faith Day and commented on the upcoming Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) Province-Wide Symposium on Catholic Education that has been scheduled for November 2006.
- Trustee DiMenna commended the organizers of the recent Blessing and Dedication of the new St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School in Harrow.
- Trustee Courtney reported that she attended the November 4 Long Service and Employee Awards banquet and congratulated the organizing committee for their work on the celebration.
- Student Trustee Kishek reported on the Student Senate Faith Development day that was held on November 2. Almost 360 secondary and grade 8 students attended the event. Student Trustee Kishek reported on the Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Fall Meeting that both she and Student Trustee (Alternate) Devos attended on November 4 and 5. Minister Kennedy was in attendance to speak to the group of student trustees from across the province. Student Trustee Kishek indicated that she will make a presentation to the Board on the recently released OSTA document *“The Student Trustee: Today and Tomorrow”* which outlines the current implementation of student trustee legislation and provides recommendations for its improvement.

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)*
- b. Deferred for six months from October 25, 2005: Motion by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna *“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 supervision to the Special Education budget.”*

18. Continuation of In-Camera – The Board reconvened to In-Camera Committee of the Whole meeting following adjournment.

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

- Tuesday, November 22, 2005
- Tuesday, December 6, 2005
(Organizational Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. - Mass at 6:45 p.m. in Assumption Chapel)
- Tuesday, December 13, 2005
- Tuesday, January 17, 2006
- Tuesday, January 31, 2006
- Tuesday, February 14, 2006
- Tuesday, February 28, 2006
- Tuesday, March 28, 2006
- Tuesday, April 11, 2006
- Tuesday, April 25, 2006
- Tuesday, May 9, 2006
- Tuesday, May 23, 2006
- Tuesday, June 13, 2006
- Monday, June 26, 2006

20. Closing Prayer – Father Brunet closed the meeting with a prayer.
21. Adjournment - There being no further business, the Regular Board Meeting of November 8, 2005 adjourned at 7:58 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

John Macri
Board Chairperson

Joseph Berthiaume
Acting Director of Education & Secretary