



Board of Trustees' Board Meeting

A public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, August 24, 2020 at the Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber St. W., Unit A, Kitchener, ON

Trustees Present:

Bill Conway (Chair), Kevin Dupuis, Manuel da Silva, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen,
*Tracey Weiler
*Via Teams

Student Trustees Present:

Abby Barbosa & Kate Morrison

Administrative Officials Present:

Loretta Notten, Jason Connolly, *Maria Ivankovic, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, *Judy Merkel, Richard Olson, Laura Shoemaker
*Via Teams

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

Greg Reitzel

Recorder:

Alice Figueiredo, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 5.7 all Board decisions made by consensus are deemed the equivalent of a unanimous vote. A consensus decision is therefore deemed to be a vote of 9-0. Under Board by-law 5.11 every Trustee "shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote" and abstentions are not permitted.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

The meeting opened with prayer led by Trustee Gravelle.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgment

The Territorial Acknowledgement was declared by Trustee Conway.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Trustee Van Alphen requested to bring forth a motion on mandatory masks for all students. Chair Conway confirmed it will be spoken to at section 12.1 of the agenda.

2020-113-- It was moved by Trustee da Silva seconded by Trustee Gravelle:

THAT the agenda for Monday, August 24th, 2020, as amended, be now approved. --- Carried by *consensus*.

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.3.1 From the current meeting – NIL

1.3.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

1.5 Items for Action:

2020-114-- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz seconded by Trustee Weiler:

THAT Items for Action of Private, Private meeting of July 20, 2020 regarding Human Resource Services matters be now approved. --- Carried by consensus.

2 Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g. day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the board is required to do)

3 Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

• Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1.1 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes of July 20th, 2020

2020-115- It was moved by Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee Dupuis:

THAT the Consent Agenda Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved. --- Carried by consensus

4 Delegations

5 Advice from the CEO

5.1 Update on School Re-Opening

Director Notten along with Superintendents provided the Board of Trustees with a high-level presentation on the School Re-Opening plan and contents of the Operational Guidelines.

Chair Conway commenced a round table discussion and questions, each Trustee was able to ask two questions at a time. Trustees discussed concerns and directed questions to Direction of Education and Superintendents. Topics included class sizes, mandatory masks, staffing accommodations, outbreak protocol, masks for individuals who lip read, lunch recess, custodial staffing, classroom furniture removal, virtual student clubs, risks of itinerant teachers, bussing and ventilation concerns.

Trustee Gravelle and Trustee Price advocated to write a letter to OCSTA and Ministry of Education with concerns. Trustees agreed that they should continue to advocate and express concerns of elementary class sizes, bussing and movement of itinerant teachers. Superintendent Maharaj noted that at this time there is no funds for MGCS supplies that have arrived that will Cost of 2.4 million and suggested that the Trustee request as well. The motion was moved by Trustee Price.

Point of Order was noted by Trustee Schmalz to extend meeting past 9:00 p.m.

**2020-116- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee da Silva
That the meeting be extended beyond 9:00 p.m. ---Carried by consensus.**

Trustees discussed contents of letter and directed Chair Conway to prepare same.

2020-117- It was moved my Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee Weiler

That the Board of Trustees instruct the Board Chair to write a letter to OCSTA and Ministry of Education on Board concerns with:

- Elementary school class sizes
- Elementary school bus sizes
- Itinerant teacher movement
- MGCS Cost of 2.8 million

---Carried by consensus.

6 Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

7 Actions From Board Committees/Task Forces

8 Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8.1 OCSTA/CCSTA Communications

Chair Conway briefly discussed communications.

9 Policy Discussion

10 Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11 Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

11.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance

12 Potential Agenda Items

12.1 Trustee Inquiry Report from the CEO

12.1 Notion of Motion (Masks for All Students)

Trustee Van Alphen addressed her proposed Notion of Motion regarding masks for all students. Chair Conway noted that there was majority by Trustees to discuss the item. Trustee Van Alphen reviewed the Motion. Director Notten noted that masks are already strongly recommend for K-3 and the Board is following Pubic Health protocol. Trustee Van Alphen felt that for clarity that all students should wear masks when possible. Trustee Van Alphen introduced the original motion.

It was moved by Trustee Van Alphen and seconded by Trustee Price that:

- 1) Trustees support all students be required to wear masks indoors in schools and while riding student transportation. All current exemption protocol will remain in place and no student shall be reprimanded if struggling to wear a mask,
- 2) Staff are requested to explore the option to offer face shields as an alternative option,
- 3) Where possible, masks will be provided to families who may not have access.

Trustee discussed amendments and acknowledged that it would be a challenge for K-3 children and that documentation for exemption should not required. Paragraph one will read:

- 1) Trustees support all students be required to wear masks indoors in schools and while riding student transportation, therefore mandating that masks be worn in all grades. All current exemption protocol will remain in place and with no documentation required for JK/SK-3 and no student shall be reprimanded if struggling to wear a mask,

Trustees discussed paragraph 2 agreed to omit as Director Notten noted that Public Health does not endorse Face Shields as an alternative to face masks.

Trustees discussed paragraph 3 and agreed to omit as the Board confirmed that they will be provided 3 reusable masks per student, and that extra supplies will be on hand for those who forget or lose masks.

Trustees agreed on the final motion as amended and it was again moved by Trustee Gravelle. Trustee Dupuis was not in agreement with the Motion.

2020-118- It was moved by Trustee Gravelle and seconded by Trustee Van Alphen:

That Trustees support all students be required to wear masks indoors in schools and while riding student transportation, therefore mandating that masks be worn in all grades. All current exemption protocol will remain in place and with no documentation required for JK/SK-3 and no student shall be reprimanded if struggling to wear a mask.

---Carried by majority.

12.2 Shared Concerns

13 Announcements

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated):

- Sept 9: SEAC (Virtual)
- Sept 14: Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Sept 25: OCSTA Regional Mtg (Virtual)
- Sept 28: Board of Trustees' Meeting
- Sept 30: Audit Committee

13.2 Pending Items:

13.3 Pending Items for OCSTA Consideration

14 Items for the Next Meeting Agenda

15 Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight.

15.1 The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

16 Closing Prayer

17 Motion to Adjourn

2020-119 -- It was moved by Trustee da Silva and seconded by Trustee Price:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 10:04 p.m.



Chair of the Board



Secretary