



Board of Trustees' Board Meeting

A public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, October 26, 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, *Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen, Tracey Weiler

*Via Teams

Student Trustees Present:

Abby Barbosa & *Kate Morrison

*Via Teams

Administrative Officials Present:

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

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

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 6:02 p.m.

1.1 Territorial Acknowledgment

The Territorial Acknowledgement was declared by Trustee Conway.

1.2 Opening Prayer & Memorials

The meeting opened with prayer service led by Fr. Joseph de Viveiros followed by a presentation of awards including Distinguished Graduate Award, Community Partner's Award and Chair's Award.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

It was noted that 1.5 is for approval.

2020-226-- It was moved by Trustee da Silva seconded by Trustee Weiler:

THAT the agenda for Monday, October 26, 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:

2020-227-- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz seconded by Trustee Dupuis:

THAT the Items for Action for:

- Private, Private meeting of September 28, 2020 regarding Human Resource Matters,
- In-camera meeting of October 5, 2020 regarding HRS matters; and
- In-camera meeting of September 28, 2020 regarding Planning & HRS 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 September 28, 2020

3.2 SEAC Minutes of September 9, 2020

3.3 Governance Minutes of October 19, 2020

2020-228- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee Dupuis:

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

Governance Committee Approval

2020-229- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee Reitzel:

THAT the Governance Minutes of October 19, 2020 be now approved. --- Carried by consensus

3 Delegations

4 Advice from the CEO

5.1 Director's Update

Director Notten provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the various virtual meetings attended provincially and locally.

5.2 Learning Commons Update

Superintendent Maharaj provided an introduction of the Learning Commons report, the presentation was led by Shelley Wood, Library Support Services Supervisor. The presentation included update on the five-year project, before and after project pictures, data regarding online book services and return to school update.

5.3 Well Being Plan Update

Superintendent Merkel and Superintendent Olson provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the Well Being Plan. Update included highlights for Safe and Accepting Schools, Mental Health & Wellness, Healthy Schools and Equity/Inclusion and next steps.

Trustees asked clarifying questions including whether there would be a wellness survey for staff, clarification on upcoming PD day for all staff, awareness of student anxiety surrounding exams and update on the possible hiring of an equity officer.

5.4 Update on WCDSB COVID Education Delivery Plan

Director Notten provided an update on the COVID Education Delivery Plan. Report included updated statics on face to face vs. virtual learning, past and upcoming transitions dates and challenges, possible modes of delivery and current hiring difficulties.

Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback. Concerns noted on outcome of delivery modality and the impact on students from last transition. Trustees requested monthly updates with respect to the education delivery. Director Notten confirmed she will continue to provide updates as provided in last two boards.

6. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8.1 Chair's Report

Chair Conway provided report on meetings attended.

8.2 OCSTA/CCSTA Communications

Chair Conway briefly discussed communications. Asked Trustees to start thinking about possible resolutions for upcoming spring AGM.

9 Policy Discussion

9.1 Governance Report

Trustee Van Alphen provided an update on October 19th, 2020 Governance meeting and the recommendation made by the committee.

2020-230 -- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Price:

That the Board of Trustees make amendments to Policy II 007 Board Members' Code of Conduct per the revisions and edits noted in this report. --- Carried by consensus

2020-231 -- It was moved by Trustee da Silva and seconded by Trustee Weiler:

That professional development around motions and Trustee inquiries take place internally during a Committee of the Whole Board meeting whereas Professional Development on effective Monitoring of Executive Limitations Policies be done through a consultant. --- Carried by consensus

Trustee Price noted that a motion should be brought forward, allowing the Chair to start the process of looking for consultants.

2020-232 -- It was moved by Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee Reitzel:

That the Board of Trustees direct the Chair of Board to seek out consultation on professional development on the Board's monitoring reports. ---carried by consensus

10 Assurance of Successful Board Performance

10.1 Board Policy II 003 Board Job Description

Trustee Van Alphen confirmed review of Board Policy II 003 Board Job Description and confirmed that the Board is in compliance.

2020-233 -- It was moved by Trustee Van Alphen and seconded by Trustee Gravelle;

THAT the Board of Trustees reviewed Board Policy II 003 Board Job Description and find that the Board is in compliance. --- Carried by consensus

Is there a need to Review the Policy? No

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

12.2 Shared Concerns

12.2.1 Notice of Motion - Rising Prevalence of Mental Health Issues among Students"

Chair Conway confirmed that Trustee Dupuis brought forth a motion and asked Trustees if there was a seconder to open the issue up for discussion.

2020-234 -- It was moved by Trustee Dupuis and Second by Trustee Schmalz:

That the Trustees enter discussion regarding Rising Prevalence of Mental Health Issues Among Students. ---- carried by consensus

Trustee Dupuis discussed son's mental illness and success in using natural methods to manage illness including special diet and vitamin supplements. Round table discussion took place amongst Trustees. Trustees agreed on the importance of mental health but struggled whether it was their role to implement studies with students. Trustee Dupuis argued that the Board could take a lead role in the province. Superintendent Shoemaker discussed the Board's role in student mental health and all the services and work that is being done. It was noted that the Board regularly brings forth reports on Mental Health and that there is one coming up in November.

Trustee Dupuis argued that this would be a volunteer study and no harm to students as only taking vitamins. Point of Order was noted at 8:51 p.m. by Trustee da Silva.

Director Notten noted that mental health is a complex issue, and our Board has done exceptional work and been awarded for the work. Confirmed that Dr. Shoemaker is scheduled to bring a report to November Board and that the Board is not in a position to invite families into research studies.

Trustee Gravelle noted point of order at 8:56 p.m.

Student Trustee Barbosa noted that there is a lot of great mental health resources, however, feels from personal experience may not always be accessible to students.

Trustee Reitzel agreed on both sides and would like to have summary of what the Board is doing.

A motion was brought forth to extend beyond 9:00 p.m.

2020-235 -- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee Van Alphen:

That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m. --- Carried by consensus

Director Notten again confirmed that a report is already scheduled to come to Board in November and can include the role nutrition plays in overall wellbeing.

Trustee Van Alphen noted that since a report is coming in November, do not see the need for motion to go forward.

Trustee Dupuis reiterated that the study will not endanger anyone. Trustees satisfied with report scheduled for November. Chair Conway read the motion brought forth by Trustee Dupuis and asked for seconder.

2020-236 -- It was moved by Trustee Dupuis and seconded by Trustee Schmalz:

That a Director present a report to the regular board meeting scheduled for December 14, 2020 on the current student supports for mental health and how good nutrition can play a role.

--- Consensus was not reached

Trustees will await a Board Report in November with respect to Mental Health.

13 Announcements

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

Discussed upcoming events.

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.

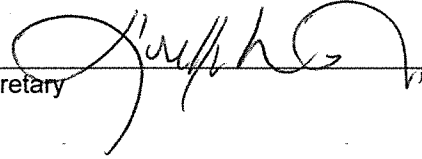
16 Closing Prayer

17 Motion to Adjourn

2020-239 -- It was moved by Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee da Silva
THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:10 p.m.



Chair of the Board



Secretary