



Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, April 14, 2025, 1st floor Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber Street, Kitchener.

Trustees Present:

Linda Cuff (Vice-Chair), Winston Francis, David Guerin, Renée Kraft (Chair), Marisa Phillips, Robert Sikora, Conrad Stanley, Tracey Weiler

*-attended online via Teams

Student Trustees Present:

Allison-Hannah Berwick*, Matteo Leone

Administrative Officials Present:

Tyrone Dowling, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonça, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Jennifer Ritsma, Annalisa Varano

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

Absent:

Recorder:

Stephanie Medeiros, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 4.7, when a decision is reached by consensus, the minutes of the Meeting shall indicate a decision by consensus with the notation in the minutes that consensus means the decision was supported by all Trustees present and eligible to vote on a matter. Under Board by-law 4.11 Whenever a vote is required, every Trustee present when a vote is taken, including the Chair but excluding any Trustee who has declared a direct or indirect pecuniary interest as required by the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote and abstentions are not permitted.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

Opening prayer – **Deferred to Special Board of Trustees**

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement

Territorial Acknowledgment – **Deferred to Special Board of Trustees**

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Chair Kraft motioned for approval of the agenda.

Trustee Weiler raised a point of order to add a Trustee inquiry for an update on the legal opinion that had been previously sought. Chair Kraft confirmed that this request will be included in the In Camera agenda. Trustee Stanley raised a point of order to propose the removal of item 7.1, Notice of Motion – Public Recording, citing that feedback from Trustees is still being gathered and suggested that this matter could be

voted on during the meeting scheduled for April 28th. Chair Kraft approved the removal of item 7.1.

**2025-14-- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Stanley:
THAT the agenda for Monday, April 14, 2025, be now approved, as amended.**

--- Carried by consensus

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.4.1 From the current meeting - NIL

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

1.5 Items for Action - NIL

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)

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1.1 Committee of the Whole Minutes – Mar 3, 2025

Chair Kraft motioned for approval of the consent agenda.

2025-15 -- It was moved by Trustee Sikora and seconded by Trustee Guerin:

THAT the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved.

--- Carried by consensus.

4 Delegations

4.1 Delegation Presentation – Chair Kraft invited Richard Christy to the podium to give a presentation regarding Notice of Motion – Update to Flag Protocol and Political Symbol Policy and 2SLGBTQIA+ literature in schools. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

4.2 Delegation Presentation – Chair Kraft invited Bill Conway et al, to the podium to give a presentation regarding policy governance and the role of Trustees with respect to the Notice of Motion – Update to Flag Protocol and Political Symbol Policy. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

4.3 Delegation Presentation – Chair Kraft invited Greg Cinti, Michael Nicholas, Rosanna Currie to the podium to give a presentation regarding Notice of Motion – Update to Flag Protocol and Political Symbol Policy and 2SLGBTQIA+ literature in schools. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5 Advice From the CEO

5.1 Math Achievement Action Plan Update

Superintendent Ritsma introduced Petra LeDuc, Math Lead Consultant to present the Math Achievement Action Plan Update. The presentation focused on evaluating the progress of key performance indicators (KPIs) and highlighted the effectiveness of the plan's outputs across the board. Key aspects of the report were reviewed as well as next steps.

5.2 Student Achievement Plan (SAP)

Superintendent Ritsma introduced Kelly Roberts, Research Coordinator to present the Student Achievement Plan. The session covered the Ministry's objectives and the Better School Act of 2023, focusing on the purpose, priorities, and goals associated with the indicators of the SAP. Additionally, the presentation examined the components of the public reporting template and analyzed the Ministry SAP indicators over time, outlining the next steps in the process. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.3 Interim Financial Report #2

Superintendent Maharaj introduced Laura Isaac, Senior Manager of Finance to present the Interim Financial Report #2. The presentation provided an overview of the financial results, including details on enrolment, staffing, and the revenue generated from core education funds, as well as a review of expenditures. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6.1 Linkages Activity

Trustee Sikora has agreed to resume the role of Chair of Linkages and provided an update on Linkages Activity including Trustee attending at Staff Recognition, OCSTA AGM and secondary convocations.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity

Trustee Guerin provided an update on Pastoral Care Activity emphasizing the importance of valuing the perspectives of all Trustees.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

7.1 Notice of Motion – Public Recording

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

8.1 OCSTA/CCSTA Communications

Chair Kraft briefly discussed OCSTA/CCSTA Communications.

8.2 Trustee and Student Trustee Evaluations

Chair Kraft noted that Trustee and Student Trustee Evaluations are now open to submit responses and results will be reviewed at the May Committee of the Whole.

8.3 Trustee Work Plan - April

Chair Kraft reviewed items for review for the month of April in the Trustee Work Plan.

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events

Trustees discussed upcoming events.

14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items

14.1 Trustees discussed upcoming items on the next agenda.

15. Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight.

15.1 Confirm Decisions

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

15.2 Trustees move into a Double In Camera meeting

**2025-16 -- It was moved by Trustee Cuff and seconded by Trustee Sikora:
That the Trustees move into a Double In Camera meeting
--- Carried by consensus**

The Trustees moved into a Double In Camera meeting at 9:27 p.m.

16. Closing Prayer

16.1 Closing prayer led by all.

17. Motion to Adjourn

**2025-17 -- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Phillips:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:41 p.m.**



Chair of the Board



Secretary