

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

Meeting #06 – Wednesday, March 20, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Clayton Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., in the Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 46 Alliance Boulevard, Barrie.

2. OPENING PRAYER / REFLECTION

Trustees Shawn Cooper and Catherine MacDonald led the opening prayer and reflection, with the following special intentions:

For the sick:

Linda and Fred Graham
Alexandra MacKay

For the deceased:

Stewart James Quinlan
Ken Baker
Assunta Anghel
Jayden Piotrowski
Lorraine Ivany
Cheryl Walsh
Carmen Ventresca
Judith Speyer
Pauline Chartrand
Kazimierz Neter
Antonio Estacio
Ralph Hoffman
Margaret Jane Carswell
Jack (Johnny) Crumbie

3. ROLL CALL

Brian Beal, Director of Education, conducted the Roll Call of the Board of Trustees to establish quorum for the Meeting.

Present: Clayton Ferguson – Board Chair, Emily Cecchetti, Shawn Cooper, Carol Corriveau-Truchon, Maria Hardie, Catherine MacDonald, Jeanny Salmon, Francis Smith, Kyle Young

Regrets: Connie Positano

Resource: Brian Beal – Director of Education, Steven Charbonneau, Glenn Clarke, Peter Derochie, Jane Dillon-Leitch, Ab Falconi, Mary Puopolo, Darren Schmidt
Regrets: Diane Legg
Recorder: Belinda Marcellus

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the Meeting Agenda.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. DELEGATIONS

There are no delegations.

7. PRESENTATIONS

Living Our Faith – Head, Heart and Hands

1. Reading Recovery

Michael Ball and Haley Cruse presented a video they produced along with Reading Recovery teachers that included learning sessions with students and comments from teachers and parents about the wonderful growth in literacy and confidence and increased interest in school for the students who benefit from the program. Teachers who had received the training expressed that it not only helped them teach Reading Recovery but was important in all areas of their professional growth. Students are identified late in their senior kindergarten year, then a list is developed at the beginning of grade one and the students at the lowest level are offered the program. 75% of students in the Reading Recovery program achieve at least grade-level standard.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Ferguson extended appreciation to Michael and Haley for their leadership to support teachers and ultimately their students who are given the opportunity to accelerate their literacy to their grade level and beyond and in turn become more confident and engaged Catholic learners.

2. Re-engagement Program and Individual Pathway Program (IPP)

Individual Pathway Program

Wade Tower, OYAP Consultant, provided an overview of a pilot project running at St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Joseph's and St. Theresa's Catholic High Schools, to support young people in their career education and planning. With a perfect storm brewing in the labour market students need to make good choices for career and life planning. The main component of the program is *Career Cruising* through a continuum for students to put the blocks in place to build their plan. Other tools include an electronic portfolio,

career matchmaker which includes 119 questions that cover skills inventory, learning styles inventory, a parent component, awards and certificates bank, occupations of interest inventory and building a resume and tracking experience. It is expected the programme will be launched board wide in September 2013. (Link to web demo of Career Cruising: <https://www.careercruising.com/Home/CPVideo.aspx>)

Re-engagement Program

Lori Harvey discussed a new program piloted in the fall to re-engage students who left school before completing their credits to graduate. Principals provided names of students and every student was contacted and invited to work toward completing their credits. Not one student rejected the offer. Students worked from home through Ministry of Education independent study programs, cooperative education placements, and dual credits and e-learning. They met with Ms. Harvey at regular intervals to hand in assignments and for assistance and mentorship in moving forward. By the end of semester one, 13 students graduated and 15 students were continuing on with their studies. The program is continuing in second semester through continuing education.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Ferguson expressed appreciation for the continuous efforts of our secondary programme team to find innovative opportunities for our secondary students to remain engaged and to achieve their secondary school Catholic graduate expectations; and look forward to post secondary studies and apprenticeships that can lead them to an exciting career and future.

Brian Beal, Director of Education was pleased to showcase some of the supports in place for our littlest learners and the importance of building confidence on their literacy journey; followed by a presentation on students about to graduate who become disengaged; and that Simcoe Muskoka Catholic students whether 4 or 19 years of age, have caring adults at their side on their journey.

3. Student Trustee Update – Emily Cecchetti

As student trustee, Emily Cecchetti serves as Chair of the student senate which consists of a student representative from each of the board's nine secondary schools. The student senate meets four times through the school year, to establish and achieve goals to support students in their journey of Catholic education.

Emily also attends conferences held by the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO) which is made up of an Executive Council with a Catholic Board Council and a Public Board Council. The executive council recently met with Premier Kathleen Wynne and Minister of Education Liz Sandals and was successful in their efforts to build a strong relationship with the Ministry.

Superintendent of Education – Secondary Schools, Mary Puopolo, reported that at the student senate meeting in December the Tony Blair Foundation's initiative *Face to Faith* was introduced; which provides opportunities for our schools to connect with schools globally to talk about how faith affects students. St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School in Bracebridge has partnered with a school in Italy and Patrick Fogarty Catholic

Secondary School in Orillia has partnered with a school in Palestine.

Chair Ferguson spoke on behalf of all of Emily's fellow trustees in recognizing the important voice of students at the trustee table. The opportunities that develop for student trustees and student senate certainly provide them with good insight into the importance of protecting and preserving Catholic education for all students.

8. ACTION ITEMS

1) Report 8.1) 06-2013: Innisfil Boundary Review

Superintendent of Education, Steve Charbonneau provided a chronology of the Innisfil Boundary Review process which began in November with an initial communication to advise the principals that the process would be getting underway and that a committee would be established. The committee included the principals of the two schools in the review area: Holy Cross and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Schools; Catholic School Community Council representation from each school; the area trustee and a representative from the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC). They met three times through December and January to develop potential boundary change scenarios. The objective of the committee was to alleviate capacity pressures at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School with an enrolment of 567 students in a school that has the capacity to accommodate 337 students; and to utilize surplus space at Holy Cross Catholic School with current enrolment of 302 students and a capacity for 483 students; and to do so by impacting the least number of existing families.

The original three boundary scenarios, identified in numerical sequence of 1-3 were presented to the community at an open house on January 29th and were posted to the board website, with community input invited. As a result of significant community input the proposed boundary changes were modified, which resulted in four modified scenarios identified in alphabetical sequence of A-D, which the committee considered.

The final scenario that the Boundary Review Committee proceeded with addresses rural students being redirected and all new development, including the small subdivision in Alcona, to Holy Cross Catholic School. Therefore, 100 students from St. Francis of Assisi, and all additional growth, will move to Holy Cross Catholic School. The changes will take effect in September 2013. This affects enrolment in both schools which in turn affects staffing. Staff also noted the importance to confirm the boundary changes before March 31st because under certain collective agreements that is a trigger date for the board to meet staffing process timelines for September.

Recommendation #01: That the Board approve the Boundary Changes for St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School and Holy Cross Catholic School, effective September 2013 based on Scenario C, as recommended by the Innisfil Boundary Review Committee.

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the recommendation.

Recommendation #02: That the Board approve the grandfathering of the current Grade 7 students to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, without transportation and that siblings of the Grade 7 students be allowed to stay at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School for one year, also without transportation.

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the recommendation.

Trustees discussed the possibility of existing families having an opportunity to request a boundary exemption once the changes take effect, and for families of grade seven students under the one year boundary exemption to access transportation if the family is close to a bus stop. Staff advised that the boundary exemption policies and procedures apply and that bussing requests are reviewed individually through the SCSTC.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Ferguson thanked the Innisfil community for their participation and input to the boundary review process. He noted the Board has had several boundary reviews this year and none of them has been easy. Trustees have the responsibility to ensure the board is utilizing all of its resources efficiently and effectively. In this case, that has required trustees to redistribute the boundaries to alleviate capacity pressures at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School by utilizing available resources at Holy Cross Catholic School. The Chair felt confident that these two school communities will build a strong and welcoming faith-filled learning environment for all Catholic families in Innisfil and that those families who want Catholic education for their children will have the best Catholic education that the board can provide. He extended the Board's appreciation to board office and school staff who have also been involved in the boundary review process.

2) Report 8. 2) 06-2013: Benefits Request for Proposal Contract Award

Recommendation: That the Board award its Employee Health, Dental and Life Insurance Plans contract to Sun Life Financial in accordance with the RFP terms and conditions submitted and agreed by Sun Life Financial.

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the recommendation.

3) Report 8. 3) 06-2013: Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) Membership Agreement

The new agreement formalizes the way in which the parties have been working together.

Recommendation: That the Board approve the draft Simcoe County Student Transportation Corporate Consortium Membership Agreement as presented.

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the recommendation.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Ferguson expressed appreciation to the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium and the board's coterminous partners at the Simcoe County District School Board as they continue to work

collaboratively to utilize resources effectively through shared services.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

1) Report 9. 1) 06-2013: Student Trustee Update

Student Trustee Emily Cecchetti provided a report in support of her earlier presentation.

2) Report 9. 2) 06-2013: 2012-2013 Budget Update and 2013-2014 Budget Schedule

This budget projection has been updated since the Board approved the Revised Estimates in November of 2012. In all likelihood, the budget will come in balanced or there possibly may be a small surplus if our risk

A draft schedule to approve the 2013-2014 Budget was provided to trustees. In addition to the Board meetings, Education Leadership Council is planning two budget in-service meetings for the Trustees – on April 3rd, and on May 21st.

Based on all indications coming from the Ministry of Education, staff expect the Ontario Provincial Budget will be later than usual, after a public consultation process (that is yet to be announced), and the likely extended negotiations within the minority government.

3) Report 9. 3) 06-2013: Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) Project Implementation

The report provided an overview of the year 3 and 4 FDK projects to be completed for September 2013 at St. Catherine of Siena, St. John Vianney, St. James and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic elementary schools. Staff propose to fund the shortfall in allocation from year 5 projects (about \$1.2 million of \$5.62 million allocated for year 5) which was an option suggested by the Ministry of Education. Five schools to be funded in year five.

4) Report 9. 4) 06-2013: Failure of Light Fixture Installation at St. Theresa's Catholic High School

The report provided an overview of the incident and the activities that transpired to quickly repair the lights and review re-lamping installations that have take place at 19 of our schools. This required shutting down school gymnasiums and cafeterias during inspection and retrofit work. Contractors responded quickly to replace and secure their installations; and board staff installed chains to lighting systems deemed secure as a preventative measure. The Ministry of Education was advised of the matter and officials will be advising all school boards in the province to include lighting inspections in their annual facility reviews.

5) Report 9. 5) 06-2013: City of Barrie Ward Boundary Review

The information report advised of the review of ward boundaries underway by the City of Barrie. Simcoe Muskoka Catholic staff have responded to questions from the consultant. Public consultations are being held in April. The change does not affect the school trustee ward boundaries, but the City does want to respect those areas in their consultations.

6) Report 9. 6) 06-2013: Education Development Charges By-law Process Update

The report provided to trustees gave an overview of the prescribed process for the jurisdiction within the County of Simcoe (including the cities of Barrie and Orillia), that will unfold jointly with the Simcoe County District School Board and the contracted services of Watson and Associates. Staff expect to have draft work completed before summer, with public consultation in the fall and a proposed a new bylaw for approval in November.

10. ROUTINE

1) Approval of Minutes – Board Meetings

i) Minutes – Meeting #05 – Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the Minutes.

11. TRUSTEE ENQUIRIES

Trustee Francis Smith noted that local media reported that the cafeteria at Orillia District Collegiate and Vocational Institute has been closed due to lack of business. He asked how Simcoe Muskoka Catholic's secondary school cafeterias are fairing. Staff advised that since the implementation of the food and beverage legislation requirements, there has been a significant downturn in some secondary schools while others have been able to develop innovative strategies and menu choices to remain viable.

12. ITEMS OF INTEREST

Trustee Catherine MacDonald noted a change in date of the Catholic Education Forum she announced at the last board meeting to May 8 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Theresa's Catholic High School, which will begin with a Mass and include guest speaker Dan Perron from St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School. All trustees are invited and an information flyer will follow via email soon.

Trustee Francis Smith advised that he and the Director of Education attended the opening ceremonies of the OFSAA Girls' Hockey Championships being hosted this week by Patrick Fogarty Catholic Secondary School, with 32 schools from across the province participating, including four Simcoe Muskoka Catholic schools. The school was pleased to accept the offer to host the event when the public high school was unable to carry out the event.

Trustee Carol Corriveau-Truchon reported that a Muskoka Media day will be held on April 4th at St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School to provide the local media with the opportunity to meet the Director of Education and Director of Communications and Public Affairs and tour the school. It is hoped this initiative will result in more balanced reporting on education in Muskoka.

Trustee Shawn Cooper was delighted to attend a fundraising event at St. Mary's Catholic School in Collingwood to support the students' annual excursion to Camp Kitchi in the spring.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Trustees were provided with a list of correspondence.

14. **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, March 27, 2013	Supervised Alternative Learning	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 27, 2013	Audit Committee - postponed	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 27, 2013	Board Policy Review Committee Meeting #03	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 02, 2013	Discipline Committee	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10, 2013	Board Meeting #07 with Mass Holy Spirit Parish, 650 Essa Road, Barrie	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16, 2013	Discipline Committee	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 17, 2013	Board Policy Review Committee	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24, 2013	SEAC	5:30 p.m.

15. **PRIVATE SESSION**

16. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

There was no report.

17. **NEXT MEETING**

Board Meeting #06:	Wednesday, April 10, 2013 with Mass	7:00 p.m.
	Mass will be at Holy Spirit Parish and the board meeting will follow in a meeting room at the parish. Directions will be provided to trustees.	
Agenda Deadline Date:	Wednesday, April 03, 2013	4:30 p.m.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:31 p.m.

19. **CLOSING PRAYER**

Trustee Jeanny Salmon led the closing prayer.