

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

Meeting #10 – Wednesday, May 04, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order, following Mass, at 8:20 p.m., by Board Chair Clayton Ferguson, in the Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 46 Alliance Boulevard, Barrie.

2. 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 – Chair, Jessica Bews, Shawn Cooper, Carol Corriveau-Truchon, Maria Hardie, Sergio Morales, Catherine MacDonald, Connie Positano, Jeanny Salmon, Francis Smith
Resource: Brian Beal – Director of Education, Delio Di Giovanni, Jane Dillon-Leitch, Mary Puopolo, Darren Schmidt, Enda Soostar
Regrets: Glenn Clarke, Peter Derochie, Diane Legg
Recorder: Belinda Marcellus

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Agenda Amendment:

Presentation 2) WWF-Canada Green CommUnity School Grant (Chris Palaro – St. Joseph's Catholic High School) – Mary Puopolo will be removed and deferred to a later date.

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. PRESENTATIONS

Celebrating God's Gift of Life and the Wonder of Life in our Community

1) Watershed Hero Award (Joe Mainolfi– Holy Trinity Catholic High School) – Mary Puopolo, Superintendent of Schools introduced Joe Mainolfi, teacher at Holy Trinity Catholic High School, in Bradford. Mr. Mainolfi and his students are recipients of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Watershed Hero award which recognizes ordinary citizens doing extraordinary things, in this case, stream bank restoration at Scanlon Creek. Holy Trinity Catholic High School has consistently participated in community environmental projects with partners such as Wye Marsh, and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. Chair Clayton Ferguson thanked Mr. Mainolfi for his dedication and passion to enhance student learning through this environmental awareness initiative and Mr. Mainolfi and his students for their hard work.

- 2) **WWF-Canada Green CommUnity School Grant (Chris Palaro – St. Joseph’s Catholic High School)** – Mary Puopolo - deferred

3) **Catholic Student Leadership Conference**

Sergio Morales, student trustee and Jessica Bews, student trustee-elect provided a presentation on their attendance at the Catholic Student Leadership Conference, hosted by Niagara Catholic District School Board in April.

The theme of the inaugural conference was *Lighting the Way*, which began with a candle lighting ceremony. Student attended workshops and had opportunities to share their best practices in preserving and protecting Catholic education for the students of the future. It was noted that those in attendance were very passionate which contributed to the collaborative work in their brainstorming session.

Chair Clayton Ferguson thanked Jessica and Sergio for sharing their experience and for representing Simcoe Muskoka Catholic students at the Catholic Student Leadership Conference, noting that their passionate commitment to preserving and protecting Catholic education will serve our Catholic students well long into the future.

4) **Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework**

Darren Schmidt, Superintendent of Education reminded trustees of the information packages they received at a previous meeting and introduced Linda McGregor, Manager - First Nation, Métis and Inuit Initiatives.

In 2007 the Ministry of Education launched the *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework*, and a voluntary self identification process. In 2008 Darren Schmidt became the Superintendent lead on this initiative and soon brought Linda McGregor to the team. Ms. McGregor established an Elders Advisory Council which included a First Nation, a Métis and an Inuit elder to provide invaluable insight and input to the Board’s processes and the development of the Board’s award winning *Making Good Tracks* document. An elder presided at each community consultation that took place with all stakeholders. The consultations assisted the board in developing a self identification policy and procedures which has resulted in 247 students self identifying. The collaborative intentions and efforts of the Board were seen by stakeholders as a sign of caring and building bridges. Principals, Vice-Principals and students have been championing these initiatives through activities to honour First Nation, Métis and Inuit education in many of our schools.

Linda McGregor presented a gift of a traditional drum which she handcrafted to Brian Beal, Director of Education and to Darren Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools.

Brian Beal expressed appreciation to Linda McGregor for her very special gift and for her invaluable work with Simcoe Muskoka Catholic, noting that she embodies the seven grandfather gifts, especially humility, which co-exist with our Catholic values.

Board Chair Clayton Ferguson, thanked Darren Schmidt and Linda McGregor for the significant contributions they have made to staff and students. He also noted that Ms. McGregor's leadership in this area continues to deepen our understanding, respect, and support for all students in our care, which includes First Nation, Métis and Inuit students.

6. ACTION ITEMS

1) Report 6. 1) 10-2011: Architect Selection – Three Capital Projects

Recommendation: That the Board Chair appoint a minimum of two Trustees to an Ad Hoc Committee to select architects for the following three projects:

- a) Our Lady of Grace Catholic Elementary School;
- b) St Catherine of Siena Catholic Elementary School; and
- c) St Theresa's High School – phase 2.

Consensus of the Board of Trustees is required for approval of the recommendation.

In order to proceed in an expeditious manner the Board Chair appointed the committee as follows:

Clayton Ferguson as Committee Chair

Maria Hardie

Catherine MacDonald.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

1) Report 7. 1) 10-2011: St. Theresa's Catholic High School \$2.1M Retrofit

The report was provided as follow-up information about this addition and the program enhancements that will result from phase one and two throughout the building. Work will begin this summer and continue in the summer of 2012.

2) Report 7. 2) 10-2011: Enhancement for Caring for All Students

In response to the Ministry of Education's Equity and Inclusive Education directive, the Board's policy statement was developed in collaboration with a consortium of Catholic school boards and legal counsel. A provincial committee led by the Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) will look at distinct ways for Catholic school boards to keep every student safe from bullying and victimization. Sherry Chapman, Coordinator of Religious Education and Chaplaincy Services with our Board has been invited by Bishop Boissonneau to serve on the committee, which will convene immediately. Updates will be provided to trustees as the committee works toward having a process in place in all Catholic school boards by September.

3) Report 7. 3) 10-2011: Scribes for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

On March 31st, grade ten students across the province wrote the Ontario Secondary

School Literacy Test (OSSLT). Successful completion of the test is a requirement of graduation. Students with special needs have an added stress and therefore accommodations are granted in the form of scribes, who are partnered one to one with a student, to write down verbatim responses on the test for the student. 17 staff from the board offices responded to the call. They received a two hour training session and then one hour debriefing session post test. The response from participants was positive and all would like to assist again next year. Trustee interest was expressed and it was noted that they would certainly be welcome to assist next year.

4) Report 7. 4) 10-2011: Multi Year Plan

As part of the passing of Bill 177, one requirement for every board is to develop a multi year plan for student achievement and well being, through appropriate use of resources and accountability. This plan would then be used for the annual review of the performance of the Director of Education. At the next Board meeting the Ministry's operational review of Simcoe Muskoka Catholic will be presented to trustees. The recurring theme highlighted in the review is that the board must implement a multi year plan and identify how departmental plans will tie in with the multi year plan. Catholic Education Week was an appropriate time to launch the conversation with all stakeholders through the booklet *Living Our Vision* which is being sent to all families, staff, parishes and school communities this week. A consultative process will be undertaken with a view to presenting a draft multi year plan to the Board at its 2012 initial meeting in December. Final comments will be taken into consideration with a revised document issued and a multi year plan published and attached to each student's report card in February 2012.

5) Budget

An opportunity was provided for conversation around information that has been presented about budget so far, and what new information, priorities, issues and questions trustees would like addressed. A full report from staff will be presented at the next meeting.

6) Special Education Advisory Committee

i) Minutes – Meeting #03 – Wednesday, March 23, 2011

8. ROUTINE

1) Approval of Minutes – Board Meetings

i) Minutes – Meeting #09 – Wednesday, April 13, 2011

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

9. TRUSTEE ENQUIRIES

As a result of discussions at the OCSTA AGM, trustees will be provided with a list of external contracted consultants in the non-academic area and the dollar value as well as a list of Board academic consultant staff, their portfolios and the total cost.

At the next Board meeting an alternate date will be set to replace the meeting scheduled for June 29, 2011, which conflicts with school graduations.

The Board Chair and Director of Education will survey trustees about the OCSTA AGM as a means for the conversations to continue.

10. ITEMS OF INTEREST

Trustees Jeanny Salmon, Maria Hardie and Carol Corriveau-Truchon reported on Catholic Education Week activities they attended throughout the week at various schools.

Trustee Carol Corriveau-Truchon advised that the parent council is looking at producing a Catholic Values calendar and have applied for a Parents Reaching Out grant to fund the production.

Student Trustee Sergio Morales provided an update on the ShareLife campaign activities at St. Joseph's Catholic High School.

Board Chair Clayton Ferguson read two pieces of correspondence received:

- Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario to OCSTA on concerns about the cost of travel and accommodation to attend the AGM.
- Best Buddies program has 59 Chapters in Catholic schools across Ontario which provides meaningful friendships for students with intellectual disabilities.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)
 - i) April 13, 2011 – Carol Devine, Director, Legislative and Political Affairs
Trustee Professional Development – Keeping the Promise – Step 2
 - ii) April 14, 2011 – Nancy Kirby, President
Letter of reply from Minister of Education, Leona Dombrowsky re: Supporting Students with Complex Needs
 - iii) April 15, 2011 – Kevin Kobus, Executive Director
OCSTA 2011 Spring Regional Meetings
 - iv) April 14, 2011 – A Fine Distinction – Ontario's Catholic School Graduate Expectations; Cycling for Catholic Education Foundation
 - v) April 18, 2011 – Jane Ponte, Executive Assistant
Resolutions from AGM 2010 Update
 - vi) April 21, 2011 – Nancy Kirby, President
Letter to Pat Hoy, MPP, Chair Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs – Bill 173.
 - vii) April 27, 2011 – Sharon McMillan, Coordinator Communications & Media Relations
 - viii) April 27, 2011 - Sharon McMillan, Coordinator Communications & Media Relations
OCSTA Communications Update: March-April, 2011

- 2) April 18, 2011 – Fred Larsen, President, Simcoe North Provincial Liberal Association (SNPLA)
Ontario Finance Minister, Dwight Duncan, Reception – Thursday, May 12, 2011

12. MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 10, 2011	Discipline Committee	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 11, 2011	Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (has been cancelled)	5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 11, 2011	Board Policy Review Committee	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 25, 2011	SEAC Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 25, 2011	Board Meeting #11	7:30 p.m.

13. PRIVATE SESSION

14. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Board has endorsed a candidate for the Supervisory Officer position and the Director of Education will proceed with Ministry of Education approval to confirm the appointment.

15. NEXT MEETING

Board Meeting #10:	Wednesday, May 25, 2011	7:30 p.m.
Agenda Deadline Date:	Wednesday, May 18, 2011	4:30 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained to adjourn the Board Meeting 10:36 p.m.

17. CLOSING PRAYER

Student Trustee-Elect Jessica Bews closed the meeting with a prayer.