



Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board

Board of Trustees

Meeting Highlights

August 23, 2011

Welcome to our new Student Trustees

The August board meeting opened with the swearing in of our new student trustee Katie Walsh who will represent St. Mary's High School in Owen Sound. Jocelyn King will represent Sacred Heart High School Walkerton, and will be sworn in at the September meeting, as she was unable to attend in August. Welcome Katie and Jocelyn!

Director's Report

Bruce MacPherson, Director of Education, presented a new DVD titled "I believe - The Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations" which will be shared with all staff members at the board wide faith formation day on September 16.

Bruce also provided an overview of the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC), a non-profit organization that provides a variety of services to School Boards in Ontario. Among these services are: a police record check service, a school energy coalition, trustee training and development projects, behaviour management systems training, and the OESC Provincial Portal which serves boards in the areas of labour relations and human resources. These services are highly regarded by board clients and the Ministry of Education.

Report on the Operational Review

Our board participated in the Ministry of Education Operational Review during the 2010/2011 school year, and has received a follow up report from the ministry which details the progress our school board has made in implementing the recommendations contained in the final report. Bruce shared the results of the follow up report, noting that overall Senior Administration made progress on most of the recommendations chosen for follow up. The Operational Review serves as a foundation to identify leading practices throughout the province.

Reading Recovery

Catherine Montreuil, Superintendent of Education, reported the Reading Recovery Success rate for the 2010/2011 school year. In house data indicates that 91% of our students in Reading Recovery last year achieved the benchmark for grade 1.

2010/2011 Pre-audit discussion

Pre-audit discussion has begun with BDO for the year ended August 31, 2011. This item will be on the agenda for the first Audit Committee meeting, scheduled for September.

Community Use of Schools Annual Report 10-11

Cathy Colton, Superintendent of Business, presented the *Annual Community Use of Schools Report for 2010/2011*. The report indicated that 223 permits were issued to community groups for the use of school facilities, and over 117, 813 participant visits were recorded.

Board policy sets out calculations for fees charged for the use of school facilities. All profit making activities and commercial organizations are charged rental fees as prescribed by board policy. Non-profit groups and community endorsed functions are eligible for reduced rates through the Community Use of Schools funding from the Ministry of Education. The boards new rates for 2011/2012 are available on the website. .

Over the last year the board has implemented a software for tracking data as recommended by the ministry. During the 2010/2011 school year, the software ran alongside our manual process, but beginning in September user groups and school administrators will use the online system to place bookings. More information is available on our website under About Bruce-Grey CDSB ~ Departments ~ Facilities ~ Community Use of Schools

Borrowing Resolution

A motion was passed to adopt the "Borrowing Resolution" for the fiscal year 2011/12 which will authorize the Treasurer of the Board to borrow from a Canadian Chartered Bank by way of Promissory Notes. It was noted that it was not necessary to borrow any funds for the 2010/11 fiscal year.

Budget Discussions

Cathy Colton, Superintendent of Business, notes that the time lines are very short for discussions that affect budget decisions. It has been proposed that certain budget items will be discussed throughout the year at Senior Admin. meetings, one item each week for a total of 4 items per month, so that the item can be discussed in more depth. The same 4 items per month will also be discussed at the principals meetings and at the in camera sessions of the board. This will allow the opportunity for more indepth discussions regarding these important budget items, and will result in more informed budget decisions.

Board Policy and Administrative Procedures

The following Policies are new or currently under review:

- BP 7-4 on Accidents
- BP 6-8 and AP 6-8 on Educational Excursions and Field Trips
- BP 9-9 and AP 9-9 on Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL)
- Police Protocol - information only

Policies and Procedures under review can be viewed on the board website at www.bgcdsb.org

IPAD Inservice

Following the regular board meeting, Catherine Montreuil provided the Trustees with inservice on the use of IPADs.

Dates of Interest:

Board wide Faith Formation Day ~ Friday September 16, 2011

Garden Luncheon at the Bishop's Residence ~ August 27 ~ to be attended by the Director and Trustees

Next Board of Trustees meeting is September 27, 2011 at 10:00a.m, at the Catholic Education Centre.