

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Trustees Present: Chairperson - W. Goetz Vice-Chairperson - Norm Bethune
Members - M. Lemme, D. Slosser, J. Vanhaelemeesch, C. Zettel
Student Reps: C. Breckon, S. Goetz
Board Officials: P. Cureton, C. Colton, B. MacPherson, P. Morley, J. Sheppard
Recording Secretary: A. Dietz

A. 1) Chairperson Bill Goetz asked everyone to remember in prayer, Terry Halpin, who recently passed away suddenly. The Board was led in prayer by Jules Vanhaelemeesch.

2) Adoption of the Agenda

03-024 *Motion By:* Mike Lemme and seconded by Dave Slosser that the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting on February 25, 2003 be accepted as printed.
Carried

3) **Conflict of Interest** ~ None were declared

B. **Approval of Minutes**

03-025 *Motion By:* Norm Bethune and seconded by Dave Slosser that the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 14, 2003 be approved as printed.
Carried

C. **Committee of the Whole Report**

03-026 *Motion By:* Norm Bethune and seconded by Dave Slosser that the Board approve the Staff Report J.S. 2003-02-11 and the recommendations contained therein.
Carried

03-027 *Motion By:* Norm Bethune and seconded by Mike Lemme that the Board approve the Staff Report J.S. 2003-02-25 and the recommendations contained therein.
Carried

D. DELEGATIONS / SUBMISSIONS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

1. **Grey Historical Society (Ruth Thomas)** *Patrick Cureton*
- Patrick introduced Ruth Thomas, President of the Grey County Historical Society and Sheila Thibaudeau Lambrinos, Society Sesqui Coordinator, to speak briefly about the history of Grey County.
 - the County of Grey celebrated their 150th Anniversary in 2002 and Ruth and Sheila talked about the Society’s participation in the celebration.
 - The Society provided a collection of old books for display and classroom use as well as arranged for heritage contests
 - St. Mary’s High School had the winning entry in the Sesquicentennial Video Contest for Secondary Schools in Grey County for their production of “The Egg”.
 - Ruth and Sheila are here today to donate fourteen copies of the book, “The Indian Princess” for use in our schools
 - Bill thanked the ladies for their presentation and the donation of books

2. **Policy on E-mail Use** *Jim Sheppard*
- employee groups were given the opportunity to review this policy and provide input prior to today
 - Jim has heard no comment from the groups and is therefore recommending approval of the policy

<p>03-028 <i>Motion By: Norm Bethune</i> and seconded by <i>Jules Vanhaelemesch</i> that the Board adopt the Policy on E-mail Use, as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Carried</i></p>
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3. **Teacher Recruitment/Retention** *Jim Sheppard*
- Jim provided a brief report on a conference he attended on Feb 10 & 11 in Toronto
 - some of the recurring themes that were mentioned included
 - importance of teacher mentoring– Jim reported that Bruce-Grey introduced the mentoring program about 4 years ago and it has been very successful
 - induction and orientation were listed as being very invaluable – we have been running an orientation day in August for the last 3-4 years and have received very positive feedback
 - professional development is seen as a very important issue, especially with all the new curriculum
 - the suggestion was made to have beginning teachers start in a less complicated assignment, e.g. not a split class
 - some boards/teachers reported a lack of collegiality in their schools - Jim mentioned that we do not see this in our board. At the orientation day, one of our 2nd year teachers commented that in the beginning the mentor was very important, but the entire school staff made her feel welcome. This is a real credit to our teachers who show a caring attitude towards our new staff.
 - Labour Relations Climate was not good in some Boards - Jim feels we have a very good Labour Relations Climate with employee groups.
 - Jim came away from the conference feeling very good about our system. He had gathered some new ideas and very useful information that other boards are using.
 - Teacher Recruitment - reps from our Board have visited Brock, Western and Nipissing this year and we are in the process of setting of interviews now
 - in conclusion, Jim reinforced that our programs and practises are in good order. We are in good shape here and our students will be well served next year.

4. **Cheque Register** *Cathy Colton*

<p>03-029 <i>Motion By: Norm Bethune</i> and seconded by <i>Jules Vanhaelemesch</i> that the Cheque Register to January 31, 2003 be approved as printed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Carried</i></p>
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5. **Early Literacy and Numeracy** *Patricia Morley*

- on February 19, 2003 four representatives from each School Board were invited to Toronto for the presentation of the Expert Panel Reports on Reading and Math.
- reps from our Board included Patricia Morley, Bruce MacPherson, Samantha Pitre and Michelle McClinchey
- York Region is responsible for coordinating the delivery of the professional development using the train-the-trainer model
- The Lead board for our area will be Trillium Lakelands who will train our Board team
- the Board team will be responsible for delivering the professional development to every K-3 teacher in the Board from Spring 2003 through the winter of 2004

6. **Board Improvement Plan** *Bruce MacPherson*

- each year, Boards and Schools are required to put together an improvement plan based on school results at elementary and secondary levels
- plans should consider assessments in Grade 3, 6 and 9 and should incorporate literacy activities
- it is evident that our students are benefitting from our literacy programs
- Bruce highlighted 5 steps to Developing the Plan
- 3 areas to focus on are school environment, curriculum delivery and parental involvement

E. INFORMATION and REPORTS

–For Information Only:

1. **Ministry of Education**

- Release of the Expert Panel Reports on Early Reading and Early Math
- Updates to *School Councils: A Guide for Members*

2. **OCSTA:**

- Resolution re funding for children with autism and letter to Louise Ervin

3. **Correspondence from Other School Boards:**

- Algonquin and Lakeshore CDSB re research on effective management practices

4. **Internal Reports:**

- *News from Our Schools*, February 2003

5. **Thank You Notes:**

- Jane Contois ~ in appreciation for everyone’s thoughts & prayers during her recovery

F. NOTICES OF MOTION

G. CHAIR's REMARKS

Bill mentioned that it may be feasible to get a van or small bus to travel to the OCSTA AGM in Sudbury. More information will be provided at a later date.

H. FUTURE BUSINESS

Next Committee of the Whole Meeting

March 25, 2003 @ 2:30 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting

March 25, 2003 @ 4:00 p.m.

I. ADJOURNMENT

03-030 Motion By: *Norm Bethune* and seconded by *Mike Lemme* that the Regular Board Meeting be adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Carried

William Goetz
Chairperson of the Board

Patrick Cureton
Director of Education and Secretary