

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Trustees Present: Chairperson - N. Bethune Vice-Chairperson - D. Slosser
Members - B. Eckensweiler, S. Finnie, F.Gross, J. Vanhaelemeesch

Board Officials: B. MacPherson (*Director of Education*); C. Colton (*Superintendent of Business*);
C. Montreuil (*Superintendent of Education*); P. Morley (*Programme Principal*);
S. White (*Human Resources Administrator*)

Student Trustees: K. Young (S.H.H.S.), B. Schrempp (S.M.H.S.)

OECTA Rep: Bill King, Anna Morrison

Recording Secretary: A. Dietz

A. 1) The meeting commenced with prayer led by Jules Vanhaelemeesch.

2) **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

07-146 Motion By: *Sam Finnie* and seconded by *Bev Eckensweiler* that the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting on September 25, 2007 be accepted as printed.

Carried

B. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST** ~ *None were declared*

C. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

07-147 Motion By: *Francis Gross* and seconded by *Jules Vanhaelemeesch* that the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 21, 2007 be approved as printed.

Carried

D. **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

07-148 Motion By: *Dave Slosser* and seconded by *Sam Finnie* that the Board approve the Staff Report S.W. 2007-09-11 and the recommendations contained therein.

Carried

07-149 Motion By: *Dave Slosser* and seconded by *Francis Gross* that the Board approve the Staff Report S.W. 2007-09-25 and the recommendations contained therein.

Carried

07-150 *Motion By: Dave Slosser* and seconded by *Bev Eckensweiler* that the Board support the Request for Proclamation initiated by OECTA, re Action Against Poverty Week, October 15-19, 2007. *Carried*

07-151 *Motion By: Dave Slosser* and seconded by *Francis Gross* that the Board write a letter to the Town of Hanover in support of a parental request to have a stop sign erected on the corner of 17th Avenue and 2nd Street A as well as a sign to deter trucks on 2nd Street A. *Carried*

E. DELEGATIONS / SUBMISSIONS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

1. **Declaration and Oath of Student Trustee** (*Kelsey Young*) *Bruce*
Bruce welcomed Kelsey and invited her to state her declaration before the Board. Chairperson Norm thanked Kelsey for taking the opportunity to serve as Student Trustee.

2. **Trust Fund Annual Report** *Cathy*

- this is a multi-year analysis – we started the fund in 1969 with \$64,000 and now the funds are slightly less than a million
- most awards have a stipulation as to how much can be paid out as a bursary
- we have a number of investments maturing in 2007-08
- bursaries are now paid at graduation rather than waiting until students provide proof of post-secondary attendance in the Fall. We think this change will streamline the process and assist students with their finances.

07-152 *Motion By: Francis Gross* and seconded by *Sam Finnie* that the Board approve the Trust Fund Annual Report as presented. *Carried*

3. **School Generated Funds** *Cathy*

- the board financial statements are reflective of all funds including school generated funds; e.g. hot dog and pizza sales, and school council funds
- in 2006-07 a total of \$445,000 was in various school bank accounts
- we have controls and guidelines in place for these funds

07-153 *Motion By: Sam Finnie* and seconded by *Bev Eckensweiler* that the Board approve the School Generated Funds Report as presented. *Carried*

4. **Student Trustee Reports** (*Bridget/Kelsey*) *Norm*

- Bridget reported that school opening and student orientation went very well. As student mentor, Bridget made herself available to a group of grade 9's on orientation day and will assist them throughout the year.
- the second day of orientation included a trip to Wonderland – this is a good opportunity to make new friends and to make the high school transition easier
- Bridget noted that they are really liking the SMART boards which they have in 2 classrooms
- the first school Mass was well attended with five priests officiating
- the first Dance was a huge success with no major problems – over 300 people attended showing a lot of school spirit
- not many sports games as of yet, but a big turnout for the organized sports

- major event upcoming – John Vanier Youth Forum - 9 students will be attending from SMHS - Bridget will be a youth leader for the conference
- Kelsey noted that not too much has been going on yet at SHHS; however Grade 9 orientation was successful and new students were given a tour of the school and located their lockers. A number of get-to-know activities also took place
- the first assembly was held on Friday with a live band performing
- Kelsey mentioned that they also have the SMART boards and the Science teachers appreciate them
- the first Mass is this Thursday with a welcome back theme
- the Terry Fox run will be held this Friday followed by a Glow in the Dark dance in the evening
- soccer, rugby, volleyball and intramurals will be starting soon

5. **OCSTA Membership Fees** (*motion*) *Bruce*
- OCSTA assists us with communication services and labour relations, government relations and advocacy services

07-154 *Motion By: Sam Finnie* and seconded by *Francis Gross* that the Board approve payment of the OCSTA Membership Fees for 2007-2008. *Carried*

6. **Student Success Overview** (*Steve Peck*) *Bruce*

- although Steve had retired in June, he has agreed to stay on with the Board for a period of time in the Role of Student Success
- Steve said it is his pleasure to be able to help the Board in this role
- Student Success is an overriding Ministry strategy for grades 7-12
- it is now in its 5th year and involves programs in literacy, mathematical literacy, pathways, community culture and caring
- emphasis is on providing an opportunity for ALL students to be successful, not just students at-risk
- many aspects of the program will continue this year and some new things will be added such as:
 - focus on Professional Development for secondary teachers on Student Engagement
 - e-Learning
 - Implementation of SMART boards
 - Math GAINS project
 - Lighthouse Project-Alternative Aboriginal Education program
 - Aboriginal Career Pathways Program
 - Peer Mentoring/Peer Mediation program
 - Specialist High Skills Major – this is an opportunity for high school students to Major in something – boards can offer a special program in a particular field or career for students to expand their knowledge and experience in that area. Our board chose Health and Wellness. We will work on developing this program in the next year or two. The program will consist of 5 components, 1) completion of 8-12 core courses at the Grade 11-12 level, 4 of which are Major or mandatory courses based on the students destination; 2) use of Ontario Skills Passport; 3) certifications - first aid, CPR, CAN FIT PRO); 4) Reach Ahead Activities and 5) Completion of contextualized units. This program focuses on the preventive side of health and wellness.

7. **Reading Recovery** (*Melisa & Janey*) *Bruce*

- Bruce introduced Melisa, Principal of Mary Immaculate School in Chepstow and Janey as the recipient of the Coaching to Inclusion award, to share information on the Reading Recovery program.
- the program provides Grade 1 students 1:1 support with a reading recovery teacher

- our Board was able to connect with York Catholic DSB in a cost effective way to implement the program and now other boards are looking at using this model for northern schools
- Janey noted that high expectations and early intervention are essential for student success
- Melisa noted that of 240 grade 1's, 79 were served in the program. 57 of the 79 were discontinued which means the students reached their target. 7 students were referred to the school team – which means student did not reach the target in the 20 week time period. These kids are flagged “at-risk” kids. 14 students are carried over and presently being served - this means they didn't get their 20 weeks by the end of June and are now continuing in the program
- Melisa and Janey were proud and happy to announce the success rates: the discontinued rate in Ontario is 72%, in York Catholic and York District was 82% and Bruce-Grey CDSB was 87.69%. we need to celebrate that!
- key learnings - kindergarten needs to be a focus; assessment teams need to track our discontinued students through data walls, Paradigm and work samples; ensure a balanced literacy program is in place in all primary classrooms; ensure uninterrupted literacy blocks
- we need to invest energy and time into our writing program
- in 2007-08 we are proud and grateful to be at full capacity across the Board; over 100 students will be served

8. **EQAO** *Catherine*

- Cathy was pleased to report on our success in the EQAO testing and our strategy for continuous improvement
- Grade 3 and Grade 6 trends - showed continued improvement in all 3 areas of reading, writing and math
- Grade 9 Applied Math and Academic Math – showed a board decrease in both areas and no change in the provincial average. However, the board remains above the provincial average in both areas.
- EQAO profiled Notre Dame Catholic School in their School Success Stories. Mike Bethune, Principal of Notre Dame Catholic School, and Nick Meloche, Literacy Teacher and Grade 4 teacher at Notre Dame, were very proud to share some information about their success.
- Mike noted that team work is essential in any school to have success. “It is due to the collective effort from all our staff.”
- some reasons we believe we were successful:
 - we are a dual track school and serve a very diverse student population – 20% have student needs
 - the double gym is used nightly
 - large day care is attached to the school, large library, design & tech room, and enrolment is on the rise. We have the newest school in our board.
- each year EQAO profiles 12 schools – over the past five years our reading scores are up 24%, writing scores are up 16% and math scores are up 14% . Notre Dame's belief statement “All children can learn” is kept front and foremost in all aspects of their daily activities.
- Nick talked about some events that took place this past year - the Professional Learning Communities allowed staff to share visions and values. We have developed collective learning and have applied that learning. We have supportive leadership in the school. Supportive conditions - prep time, release time, creative coverage to ensure student needs are met. Benefits of PLC - teachers are able to focus on explicit instruction, more child-centered dialogue, can identify benchmarks through data, modeling for students and teachers, follow-up with debriefing. Increased confidence in teachers
- Mike noted that Deb Hyland from the Ministry took Notre Dame's assessment team through last year's EQAO results and showed how to pull particular information to get appropriate data
- Norm thanked Mike and Nick for sharing their fabulous success story
- Jules commended the efforts of all teachers and principals in our schools

9. **Policy/Administrative Procedures Review:** *Catherine*
- **Health Services and Medication**
 - we have reviewed the Policy on Health Services and Medication and the Policy on Anaphylaxis and have made minor house keeping changes
 - changes were to standardize both policies for schools, communities, including bus drivers, so everyone knows the procedure to follow in case of an emergency

07-155 Motion By: *Dave Slosser* and seconded by *Francis Gross* that the Board approve revisions to the Policy on Health Services and Medication, as presented.

Carried

- **Anaphylaxis**

07-156 Motion By: *Bev Eckensweiler* and seconded by *Jules Vanhaelemeesch* that the Board approve revisions to the Policy on Anaphylaxis, as presented.

Carried

F. INFORMATION and REPORTS

-Committee Reports

-For Information Only

1. Internal Correspondence / Reports:

- Thank You Notes: -

Scholarship/Busary ~ *Daniel Curley, Rob Eckensweiler, Heather Gies, Shayla McConachie, Kate Reinhart, Katrina Schurter*

Expression of Sympathy ~ *Nick Meloche and family*

G. QUESTIONS / COMMENTS by TRUSTEES

H. NOTICES OF MOTION

I. CHAIR's REMARKS

J. FUTURE BUSINESS

Next Meeting: **October 16, 2007**

~ Committee of the Whole @ 1:30 and Regular Board Meeting @ 3:00 p.m.

K. ADJOURNMENT

07-157 Motion By: *Francis Gross* and seconded by *Dave Slosser* that the Regular Board Meeting be adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Carried

Norm Bethune
Chairperson of the Board

Bruce MacPherson
Director of Education and Secretary