

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 10.3 Election of the Chair of the Internal Audit Committee: A.A. LeMay
- 10.4 Modernization of School Board Governance: A.A. LeMay
- 10.5 Parent Conference – November 15th 2008: A.A. LeMay
- 10.6 Notice of Motion – Grade 4 Religious Assessment: A. Danko

# 167/08	Moved by: <i>E. Viana</i>	
	Seconded by: <i>A. Danko</i>	
RESOLVED , that the agenda be approved as amended.		CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Long Term Accommodation Plan Demographic Trends

P. McMahon explained that LTAPs for school boards are conducted every five years. The Board updated its plan in 2004 and as per Ministry requirements updated it in 2005 and again in 2008. He noted that this is the first in a series of five presentations which will take place over the next few months. P. McMahon introduced C. Clark and D. DelBianco from Watsons & Associates.

C. Clark provided trustees with information background in terms of developing enrolment projections and assessing trends within the Board's jurisdiction. She provided key demographic and enrolment trends noting that Halton is one of two boards experiencing growth in Ontario.

D. DelBianco provided a power point presentation which identified areas of growth and areas of decline in the four municipalities: Oakville, Burlington, Milton and Halton Hills. He also compared the grade structure ratio between the Halton Catholic District School Board and the Halton District School Board. He emphasized that there are areas of significant growth but there are also areas of significant decline. Trustees were reminded that projections are contingent on various factors including housing starts, servicing, and economic forces.

In response to questions, C. Clark explained that the ratio structure between both boards is differs largely because the immigrant population is non-Catholic. She also acknowledged that most Boards in the GTA will be in a declining state without the implementation of the 4/5 year old program. Areas south of the 401 without full day 4/5 year olds program, in particular Catholic boards, will have a significant amount of surplus classroom space. C. Clark noted that methodology and census gathering following the 2006 census relies on information from municipalities and on the release of enrolment statistics from school boards.

The Chair thanked the presenters.

4.2 Halton Food for All – Fall Consultation with Stakeholders

Mrs. G. Cruikshank, Executive Director for the *Halton Food for Thought* program provided background information regarding the *Halton Food for All* project. She briefly described the scope of the project, which would provide all nutrition programs in the area the opportunity to purchase food in large quantities. M. Logan, Program Director for *Halton Food for All* indicated that the goal of the organization is not to let any food bank go without food, through a central warehouse model where fresh frozen foods are collected. M. Logan provided information regarding the feasibility study that was undertaken, spoke to the program, the implementation process as well as the membership fee structure and described the benefits of the proposed model. The initiative will be launched December 7th.

G. Cruikshank, in response to questions, acknowledged that school boards would not be a member agency, but food banks and the *Halton Food for Thought* program would be considered an agency. M. Logan noted that membership to the association is voluntary but the organization must be a member in order to receive the food.

The Chair thanked G. Cruikshank and M. Logan for their presentation.

5. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

8. **ACTION ITEMS**

8.1 **Extended Trips Advisory Committee (ETAC) Trips**

- a) **Bishop PF Reding Catholic Secondary School, Milton to Spain & Portugal – Thursday, March 11th to March 22, 2010**
- b) **Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School to Dominican Republic from April 2nd to April 9th 2009**
- c) **St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary Schools, Oakville to Dominican Republic from March 26th to April 2, 2009**
- d) **St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School, Oakville to Munich and Vienna from March 10th to March 18th 2010**
- e) **Christ the King Catholic Secondary School, Georgetown to Phoenix, Arizona from January 29th to February 1st 2009**

F. Mazzetti welcomed and introduced representatives from each school and reported that the Board's ETAC Committee met on October 22nd to review the requests for the extended trips. The Committee is satisfied that the trips comply with provisions of the Board's policy on educational trips.

In response to questions, F. Mazzetti noted that the insurance includes travel, health and cancellation. She also assured trustees that the lead supervisor for each trip has had previous travelling experience on overseas trips.

168/08

Moved by: A. Danko

Seconded by: E. Viana

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the extended field trip by Bishop P.F. Reding Catholic Secondary School, Milton to Spain and Portugal, March 11 – 22 2010;

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the extended field trip by Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, Oakville to Dominican Republic, April 2-9, 2009;

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the extended field trip by St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School, Oakville to Dominican Republic, March 26-April 2, 2009;

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the extended field trip by St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School, Oakville to Munich, Germany and Vienna, Austria on March 10 – 18, 2010;

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the extended field trip by Christ the King Catholic Secondary School, Georgetown to Phoenix, Arizona, January 29 to February 1, 2009.

CARRIED

P. Houlahan and F. Mazzetti left the meeting at 9:20 p.m. to resume negotiations.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6.1 **Regular Board Meeting – October 21, 2008**

169/08

Moved by: A. Iantomasi

Seconded by: E. Viana

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the October 21, 2008 Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

7. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**7.1 **Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings**

170/08

*Moved by: R. Palmieri**Seconded by: J. Matters*

RESOLVED, that the summary of outstanding items from previous meetings be received as information. **CARRIED**

8. **ACTION ITEMS**8.2 **Proposed Revisions to Policy I-34 – Employee/Trustee Expenses**

J. Langill spoke to the proposed revisions to the policy which are being presented to trustees, as an attempt to address areas of concern around the detailed nature or lack of details contained in policies regarding the names, events, dates, times and reasons for expenditures, which are eligible for reimbursement to employees and trustees.

Discussion which followed focused on whether or not the Board's policy, prior to the proposed revisions, was in compliance with the existing legislation. J. Langill acknowledged that the Board is in compliance but that the revisions and accompanying recommended guidelines are presented as a result of incidents that occurred at another school board. B. Van de Vrande expressed a concern with the proposed revisions in light of the fact that the Board is in compliance with the legislation. He also expressed a concern in terms of providing information that may not be appropriate and that might be of a confidential nature. He indicated that the matter deserved further discussion and consultation. He presented the following tabling motion:

171/08

*Moved by: B. Van de Vrande**Seconded by: R. Palmieri*

RESOLVED, that the matter be tabled to the 2nd meeting in January 2009. **DEFEATED**

A number of trustees spoke in favour of the proposed changes which reflect the recommendations and expectations of the Supervisor's Report of the Toronto Catholic District School Board. J. Matters indicated that the changes provide clarity, accountability and transparency to the public. A.A. LeMay addressed the Supervisor's expectations. A. Danko concurred that the report from the Supervisor should be treated like a change to provincial policy and suggested that a requirement be included to post trustee expenses on the Website for the past ten years, striking out personal information sensitive to other parties.

M. Pautler clarified that as Director, his obligation is to ensure that staff demonstrates prudent and appropriate use of public funds and the Chair of the Board is the gatekeeper for trustee expenses. He concurred with Trustee Van de Vrande's comment that the Board is under no legal compulsion to amend the policy. However, the discussion is not about whether or not the Board is compliant with legislation but whether we are intent or prepared to set the standard of behavior or expectations that would exceed narrow compliance or keeping in the spirit articulated by the Supervisor in the neighboring board.

B. Van de Vrande and R. Palmieri objected to the proposed changes on the basis that it might not be appropriate and that a parent or staff member might want to maintain confidentiality because of potential recriminations. B. Van de Vrande argued that the Supervisor was not empowered to make recommendations for the province and that the Board might be reacting unnecessarily to the report. He suggested that the third bullet under b) which reads "**Names/Roles of participants**" be amended to read "**Names and/or Roles of Participants**" allowing for further clarification if required by the Chair of the Board.

172/08

Moved by: B. Van de Vrande
 Seconded by: R. Palmieri

RESOLVED, that the third bullet under b) which reads “Names/Roles of Participants” be amended to read “Names and/or Roles of Participants”. **DEFEATED**

173/08

Moved by: J. Matters
 Seconded by: A. Danko

RESOLVED, that Board Policy I-34 Employee/Trustee Expenses be approved.

CARRIED

9. STAFF REPORTS

9.1 Response to Board Motion # 136/08

R. MacDonald spoke to the report and commented on the fact that the timing of the motion was very opportune and coincided nicely with the release of a variety of excellent materials on this particular topic in the Family Life Program. He indicated that staff has been in-serviced on the various resources and thanked Trustee Matters for procuring a speaker for the students.

J. Matters expressed her appreciation to R. MacDonald for the efforts made towards focusing in greater detail and more fully on the opportunity to educate students on chastity. R. MacDonald described how the presentation in May would be delivered to the students. He explained that it would be offered to secondary students at Loyola, Bishop Reding and Corpus Christi as well as student representatives from the respective municipality and grade 8 students from affiliated schools. He also noted that staff is in the process of procuring a speaker for 2009.

At the suggestion of R. Palmieri, an informal survey to obtain feedback from teachers regarding the resources will be undertaken in the spring. She also suggested that the DVD from P. Stenzel be presented to grade 8 students.

B. Van de Vrande asked how much it would cost to bus all secondary students to a central location. R. MacDonald will follow-up.

10. INFORMATION

10.1 Update from Student Trustees

C. Restivo reported that student senators met on October 22nd at Bishop Reding. Students discussed potential speakers and workshops for the Halton Youth Leadership Symposium. The theme for this year’s conference will be “Making a Difference”. N. Bourque, P. Cockburn and C. Restivo are currently in the process of planning a Joint Senate meeting with the Halton Public Board to combine ideas and continue preparations. At the meeting, the senators discussed the fact that chapels are frequently visited by students. They also expressed a concern with the conditions of the washrooms at Christ the King, Holy Trinity and Bishop Reding.

G. Corbacio commented that supervisors have been directed to address the conditions of the washrooms and welcomed the help of student trustees and Superintendent F. Mazzetti in finding means of mitigating some of the vandalism.

C. Restivo, in response to a question from J. Matters, commented on the Catholicity component of the Conference planning. She indicated that there will be an opportunity for all students to attend Catholic workshops in the afternoon following the presentations from two speakers.

10.2 Approved Educational Field Trips

R. Palmieri raised a concern regarding the cost as well as the financial impact on parents for some of the proposed trips at elementary schools. Speaking from experience, J. Langill described various approaches used by administrators to address families in need and explained how such situations are managed at the school level. He assured trustees that no children do without.

10.3 Internal Audit Committee - Chair

A.A. LeMay informed trustees that R. Palmieri submitted her resignation as Chair of the Internal Audit Committee. Those interested in assuming the role as Chair of the Committee were asked to contact D. Ross. A motion will be presented at the November 18th Board meeting.

10.4 School Board Governance from OCSTA

A.A. LeMay drew trustees' attention to the correspondence from OCSTA regarding School Board Governance.

10.5 Parent Conference – November 15th 2008

Trustees were reminded of the Parent Conference that will take place on November 15th. Registration can be completed on line.

10.6 Notice of Motion

A. Danko will be presenting a motion at the November 18th Board meeting on Grade 4 Religious Assessment.

# 174/08	<i>Moved by: R. Palmieri</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: E. Viana</i>	
RESOLVED , that the information items 10.1 to 10.6 be received.		CARRIED

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 There was no correspondence.

12. OPEN QUESTION PERIOD**13. IN CAMERA**

# 175/08	<i>Moved by: R. Palmieri</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: A. Iantomasi</i>	
RESOLVED , that the meeting move in-camera.		CARRIED

The meeting moved in camera at 10:09 p.m.

14. RESOLUTION re ABSENTEES**15. ADJOURNMENT/CLOSING PRAYER**

# 176/08	<i>Moved by: E. Viana</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: A. Iantomasi</i>	
RESOLVED , that the meeting adjourn.		CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m. with a closing prayer led by S. Rossini.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

APPROVED:

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Secretary of the Board

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Chair