

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

Item 10.10 - Mr. E. Viana

Item 10.11 - Notice of Motion for the May 5th Board Meeting: Catechesis

At the request of A. Danko and by consensus, Item 8.7 was removed from the agenda on the basis that Curriculum Services can proceed and execute the proposed recommendations. M. Pautler indicated that the proposed course of action, that was described in the Staff Report of March 24th and brought forward again as Item 8.7, have cost implications that will be budgeted within the process of developing the operating budget for the 2009-2010 school year and as such, does not require specific approval.

# 72/09	<i>Moved by: E. Viana</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: A. Iantomasi</i>	
RESOLVED , that the agenda be approved as amended.		CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. DELEGATIONS**5.1 Mandatory School Uniform: Mr. T. McCormack**

Mr. McCormack addressed the voting process for mandatory school uniform for elementary school students, questioned the benefits of mandatory uniforms based on the evaluation of the survey results and commented on the response rates from parents. He asked trustees that all members of the community be included in the calculation, regardless of whether or not they respond to the survey.

B. Van de Vrande explained why the Committee has agreed not to count those who choose not to exercise their right to vote because to do so would mean making an assumption that the lack of response could be considered a 'no' vote or a 'yes' vote. The process that has been established is fair and will ensure that everyone has ample opportunity to vote based on a clear question. In the interest of a compromise and of democracy, the process is an attempt to move forward by encouraging parent involvement and providing an opportunity for each school community to exercise their right. Appropriate guidelines and mechanisms have been established.

Trustee A.A. LeMay thanked Mr. McCormack for his input and acknowledged that a response would follow.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**6.1 Regular Board Meeting – March 24, 2009**

# 73/09	<i>Moved by: J. Matters</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: E. Viana</i>	
RESOLVED , that the minutes of the March 24, 2009 Regular Board Meeting be approved as amended.		

Referencing the Student Trustee Policy, B. Van de Vrande suggested amending the wording of the requirement to reflect that students should "at least" be in grade 11.

Under 9.3, R. Palmieri asked that the wording be amended as follows:*she also questioned whether or not the essential material was being delivered from the comprehensive curriculum by the teachers to the students before they proceed to the related activities.*

The minutes **CARRIED**.

7. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

7.1 **Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings**

74/09

Moved by: E. Viana

Seconded by: A. Iantomasi

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

R. Palmieri requested clarification regarding the status for *the Procedure – Selection and Appointment of Positions of Administrative Responsibilities*. In response, M. Pautler indicated that staff will bring forward the Administrative Procedure VI-28 in May. The chart will be amended to reflect that it is the Director's responsibility to bring forth the information.

The Chair called for a vote and the motion **CARRIED**.

8. **ACTION ITEMS**

8.1 **Board Operating Policy II-24 – Home-to-School Student Transportation: Second and third Readings**

P. McMahon addressed the purpose of the report and prefaced his presentation by referencing the history section of the report that identifies the list of previous reports to the Board. In speaking to the report he briefly addressed the following:

- main change to the policy which is the secondary walk distance from 3.2 km radius to 4.0 km walk distance;
- concerns raised by the delegation and trustees from the March 3, 2009 Board meeting;
- summary of feedback from the policy consultation process;
- nine (9) specific topics related to secondary school transportation in the region, and specifically the Georgetown South area in each of these

In his concluding remarks, P. McMahon noted that the investigation of these nine (9) areas reveals that there are no significant differences between Georgetown South and other high school communities in the Board or the Region. In fact there are no significant differences between Georgetown South and other areas of Georgetown itself that are no longer provided transportation.

P. McMahon thanked K. Lacroix, S. Morgan and M. Eng for their significant work effort in the preparation of this report.

75/09

Moved by: Father D. Wilhelm

Seconded by: R. Palmieri

RESOLVED, that Board Operating Policy II-24, Home-to-School Student Transportation be approved in second and third readings.

Father D. Wilhelm briefly addressed the motion and acknowledged the work of the Consortium.

At the request of Trustee Van de Vrande, the policy will be amended to reflect that the establishment of start and dismissal times be done in consultation with School Services superintendents. Referencing page 3/12 of the report where it states that the *HSTS undertook a study recently to review the possibility of piloting the use of Municipal Transit in place of yellow school busesand that the result of this initiative was increased cost to all four boards*, B. Van de Vrande asked that the minutes reflect the fact that he recognizes the result of this study but that the study assumes certain parameters that are not necessarily valid for the following reasons: it assumes a cost of 'per student' stepping on the bus or a fixed cost of bus passes but does not assume changes in the paradigms between the municipality and the boards. He reiterated the need to continue investigating this option and reinitiate the discussion with the municipalities. In response, P. McMahon confirmed that staff is moving forward and that the issue is a topic of their upcoming Management Committee Agenda. K. Lacroix expanded on some of the challenges that surfaced in consideration of the pilot project.

The following is an overview of the topics addressed during discussion as well as some of the responses:

- P. McMahon clarified that the cost to provide transportation to students in Georgetown South would be approximately \$168,000. This would contribute to the shortfall in the transportation budget and would pose a problem with balancing the budget.
- P. McMahon acknowledged that the Board does not have an Appeals Committee to address the concerns of parents. In terms of the process, parents must present their concerns to the Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS) and, as the next step, can delegate to the board if they're not satisfied with the response.
- Start/end times of schools are currently being reviewed within the context of the policy.
- There have been twelve (12) E & E reviews and there have been policy exceptions noted that have not been looked upon favourably by the Ministry. P. McMahon noted that there has been some withholding of funding enhancements that could cover a shortfall. The Board has not received a letter from Minister Wynne in response to T. Arnott's letter.
- P. Houlahan commented on the fact that even though students are eligible for bussing, a number of them don't utilize the bus. K. Lacroix acknowledged that the number of eligible students vs the number of riders hovers around 48 to 59%. The consortium will take a close look at this issue and there could potentially be savings generated from the study.
- P. Houlahan reiterated the need to have consistency and treat everyone equally within all of Halton.
- P. Bourque maintained that, unlike Oakville, Burlington and Milton, students in Georgetown don't have access to Municipal Transit. R. Palmieri re-iterated that the issue is all about public transportation and suggested that bus passes could be offered to students in South Halton to generate savings.
- P. McMahon, when asked by Father D. Wilhelm if we can expect the consortium to come up with some innovative and new ideas of looking at busing that may increase the capacities and help us in efficiencies, listed a number of factors that supports the fact that the Board has been running an efficient and effective transportation system.
- A. Danko questioned why the savings accrued from harmonizing the policies with the three other boards could not be applied to the cost of running the Georgetown South bus. In response, M. Pautler explained that the cost savings identified in the table on page 7/12 is premised on the elimination of transportation in areas that have municipal transit is not a cost savings based on providing transit passes to students instead of yellow school buses, it's a cost savings that would be identified if no provision was made for transportation in areas served by public transit. Students in each of these communities would be able to access a bus at their expense. It's not a matter of savings recognized out of differential between yellow buses and public transit.
- When asked if the Board could afford to have the exception for Georgetown South by adopting the Policy and gaining the efficiencies and forecasted savings, P. McMahon acknowledged that the Board could not afford the exception since there is still a projected shortfall in 2008-2009 and an even greater projected deficit in 2009-2010.

B. Van de Vrande presented the following motion:

# 76/09	<i>Moved by: B. Van de Vrande</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: A. Danko</i>	
RESOLVED , that the second and third readings be done separately.		CARRIED

A recorded vote was requested by R. Palmieri.

# 75/09	<i>Moved by: Father D. Wilhelm</i>	
	<i>Seconded by: R. Palmieri</i>	
RESOLVED , that Board Operating Policy II-24, Home-to-School Student Transportation be approved in second reading.		

In Favour	Against
Danko, A. Houlahan, P. Iantomasi, A LeMay, A.A. Matters, J. Palmieri, R. Van de Vrande, B. Viana, E. Wilhelm, Father D.	

The student trustees' votes are non-binding.

In Favour	Abstained
Cockburn, P.	Bourque, N. Restivo, C.

The motion **CARRIED**.

# 77/09	<i>Moved by: Father D. Wilhelm</i> <i>Seconded by: R. Palmieri</i>
RESOLVED , that Board Operating Policy II-24, Home-to-School Student Transportation be approved in third reading.	

In Favour	Against
Danko, A. Houlahan, P. Iantomasi, A. LeMay, A.A. Matters, J. Van de Vrande, B. Viana, E. Wilhelm, Father D.	Palmieri, R.

The student trustees' vote is non-binding

In Favour	Abstained
Restivo, C.	Bourque, N. Cockburn, P.

The Chair indicated that third reading required two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. The motion **CARRIED**.

8.2 Bus Transportation – Georgetown South (South of Hungry Hollow Ravine): Postponed Motion from the March 24, 2009 Board Meeting

A. Danko briefly spoke to the motion.

# 78/09	<i>Moved by: A. Danko</i> <i>Seconded by: R. Palmieri</i>
RESOLVED , that bus transportation for Christ the King Catholic Secondary School students residing in Georgetown South (south of Hungry Hollow Ravine) be provided for the 2009-2010 school year as a policy exception; and	
<i>That parents are to be advised that transportation is being provided as a policy exception.</i>	

R. Palmieri spoke in favour of the resolution and urged trustees to vote in support the motion.

In Favour	Against
Danko, A. Palmieri, R. Wilhelm, Father D. Viana, E	LeMay, A.A. Van de Vrande, B. Matters, J. Houlahan, P. Iantomasi, A.

The student trustees' votes are non-binding:

In Favour	Against	Abstained
Cockburn, P.	Restivo, C.	Bourque, N.

The motion was **DEFEATED**.

8.3 School Year Calendar 2009-2010

M. Tessari presented a revised school year calendar for 2009-2010 that has been reviewed in response to K. Wynne, Minister of Education's letter to school boards encouraging them to consider a calendar that brings students back after Labour Day, on September 8, 2009. She briefly described the consultation process that took place and outlined the proposed changes from the previously approved calendar.

In response to questions, M. Tessari assured trustees that all staff, including secretarial, custodians and administrative staff will be given the opportunity to participate in the Faith Day on September 2, 2009. It was noted that the Board Designated Holiday on September 4, 2009 is for teaching staff, educational assistants and child youth counselors and consultants but will be a work day for custodians, secretarial staff and Board administration staff.

A. Iantomasi expressed her appreciation to the Committee and acknowledged receipt of a number of e-mails and telephone calls in support of the proposed changes.

B. Van de Vrande encouraged the Board to send a letter to the Minister to express concern regarding the fact that the direction they provided boards compromised the process.

# 40/09 (amendment)	<i>Moved by: J. Matters Seconded by: A. Danko</i>
RESOLVED , that the Halton Catholic District School Board amend the 2009-2010 School Year Calendar previously adopted motion # 40/09 by approving the 2009-2010 School Year Calendar presented and outlined in the report dated April 14, 2009. CARRIED	

8.4 New Board Operating Policy II-41 School Uniform Dress Code/School Dress Code: 2nd and 3rd Readings

Trustee Van de Vrande presented the following motions:

# 79/09	<i>Moved by: B. Van de Vrande Seconded by: J. Matters</i>
RESOLVED , that Board Operating Policy II-41 School Uniform Dress Code/School Dress Code be approved in 2 nd Reading.	

# 80/09	<i>Moved by: B. Van de Vrande Seconded by: J. Matters</i>
RESOLVED , that Board Operating Policy II-41 School Uniform Dress Code/School Dress Code be approved in 3 rd Reading.	

J. Langill described how the Committee fulfilled its mandate of reviewing the pilot projects. He presented recommendations and provided trustees with an exit plan for school uniform.

J. Langill commented that the goal of the Committee was to achieve consistency amongst all

communities, not only in terms of implementation but as they move forward in future years, by establishing clear rules and guidelines. He commented on the feedback obtained from stakeholders in response to the new Policy II-41 and addressed some of the concerns raised by the delegation under Item 4.1. J. Langill acknowledged that he would be responding in writing to Mr. McCormack.

Trustees Houlahan, Matters and Van de Vrande suggested some changes to the wording of the policy. J. Langill addressed the proposed changes. The **NOTE** on the ballot form will be more prominent. Staff acknowledged that the communication plan will be clear, concise and detailed. The wording of the 'Note' will be amended to read: *2/3 of the ballots cast have been signed indicating a 'yes' vote*. The comment above the note will read: *It is suggested* rather than *It is required*. The policy will be amended accordingly.

The Chair called for a vote on Motion # 79/09 for 2nd reading and it **CARRIED**.

The Chair called for a vote on the Motion # 80/09 for 3rd reading. Seven (7) trustees voted in favour, two (2) voted against and the three student trustees voted (non-binding) in favour. The motion **CARRIED**.

A.A. LeMay expressed her appreciation for the work of the Committee and for clarifying the process.

8.5 Proposed Secondary Schools Track and Field Facility Renewal Projects

As a follow-up to the March 24th meeting, G. Corbacio commented that the actual construction tenders received for the three projects were within the budget amounts presented in the Staff Report. He briefly commented on the projected costs of the projects and the financing of the projects.

81/09

Moved by: J. Matters

Seconded by: E. Viana

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the Bishop Reding, Notre Dame and St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary Schools Track and Field Replacement Projects for a cost not to exceed \$5.5 million to be funded by a \$2.4 million 10 year loan and the balance of the project cost, up to \$3.1 million, be funded from the Facility Renewal Reserve.

When asked why there were cost disparities amongst the projects, G. Corbacio explained that the scope of work varies for each project due to the local site conditions and needs. In terms of saturating the market, he indicated that this concern was raised last year at a Board meeting and irrespective of that, the Board will make good use of these new program facilities. He reminded trustees that these types of fields represent tangible benefits to the students. G. Corbacio indicated that the tracks should be ready by September.

A number of trustees commented on the fact that funding enveloping can at times be difficult to rationalize when considering other needs of the Board. G. Corbacio concurred that the optics are not ideal but that the projects are being funded through a cost recovery and self sustaining business plan.

The Chair called for a vote and the motion **CARRIED**.

82/09

Moved by: E. Viana

Seconded by: J. Matters

RESOLVED, that the meeting move beyond 10:30 p.m.

CARRIED

8.6 Proposed 2009 Good Places to Learn & Facility Renewal Projects

G. Corbacio spoke to the report and the recommendation.

83/09

Moved by: Father D. Wilhelm

Seconded by: B. Van de Vrande

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the Proposed 2009 Good Places to Learn and Facility Renewal Projects and that the estimated \$1.35 million required to complete the projects be funded from the Facility Renewal Reserve. **CARRIED**

8.7 **Grade 4 Religious Assessment**

This item was removed from the agenda.

9. **STAFF REPORTS**

9.1 **Architect Selection for St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School, Addition & Alterations Project**

G. Corbacio reported that the five architect firms on the Board's Pre-qualified Architect Roster have been invited to submit a proposal to provide architectural services for the St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School - Addition and Alterations Project. The architect presentations and interviews will take place on April 29th and an Architect recommendation for trustee consideration and approval is anticipated at the May 5, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board.

9.2 **2009-2010 Budget – Salaries and Benefits**

P. McMahon and S. Zucker presented the salary and benefits budgets, the first in a series of five presentations. P. McMahon provided an overview of the budget process, identified timelines and reviewed the proposed schedule of presentations to the Board. S. Zucker outlined the salaries and benefits budget for non-teaching salaries, elementary teaching salaries, secondary teaching salaries, the benefits and concluded by outlining the next steps.

In essence, S. Zucker noted that the total salaries of \$183,178,000 plus the total benefits of \$25,645,000 represents over 85% of the entire operating budget of the Board. The Board's projected 09-10 revenue is \$237.4 million. She described how the salary budget is built versus the non salary budget to determine the necessary changes.

S. Zucker responded to questions relative to staffing based on the requirements of the PDT Agreement.

Trustees were invited to submit their input into the process and forward any questions to the attention of S. Zucker and/or P. McMahon.

P. McMahon introduced Scott Bland, the newly hired Administrator, Planning Services.

10. **INFORMATION**

10.1 **Update from Student Trustees**

C. Restivo reported that the last Student Senate meeting took place on March 28, 2009 at Loyola Catholic Secondary School and confirmed that Mrs. Mazzetti attended to explain the new election process for student trustees and to respond to questions. The senators provided positive feedback to the overall process. C. Restivo thanked Mrs. Mazzetti for her work in initiating this new process and for helping emphasize to the senators their responsibility in electing the new student trustees. The elections will take place on Tuesday, April 28th at Corpus Christi. Trustees were made aware that the senators have worked diligently in developing workshops that focus on leadership while promoting Catholic Values. Trustees will be receiving an invitation to the Conference scheduled for May 25th at Gary Alan from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

10.2 **Approved Educational Field Trips**

10.3 **Resolutions to be Considered at the 2009 AGM Conference**

10.4 **Regional Meetings at 2009 AGM Conference**

A.A. LeMay listed some of the topics that she's received to be discussed at the Regional Meeting. Trustees were encouraged to forward any additional topics they would like considered as discussion items for the Regional meeting agendas.

10.5 **Release of 2009-2010 Grant for Student Needs (GSN)**

10.6 International Baccalaureate (IB) Program

B. Van de Vrande expressed concern with staff's recommendation to defer the implementation of an International Baccalaureate program on the basis that he thought the implementation of the program was well under way since it has been a topic of discussion for the past couple of years.

M. Pautler noted that the report was intended to provide an update of the work that has been undertaken to this point and acknowledged that the concept was purely exploratory, had reached a certain point and had been put on hold because of financial implications. The intent is not to put an absolute stop or hold on this program but rather to suggest that initially, the discussion about it grew out of a localized discussion about enrolment patterns and the need to sustain enrolment at one particular secondary school. The intent is to roll this into a broader discussion that looks at a variety of specialty programs, including High Skills Majors Programs, OYAP, Extended French Programs and IB programs. The long term intent is to examine all of those things as a comprehensive study rather than deal with it as an isolate issue.

F. Mazzetti commented on the issue and indicated that past discussions was only to initiate the investigation process for the IB program. She elaborated on the circumstances that have delayed the investigation of the program.

84/09*Moved by: A. Danko**Seconded by: E. Viana**RESOLVED, that the meeting continue beyond 11:00 p.m.***DEFEATED****10.7 Capital Projects Report as at March 31, 2009****10.8 Budget Report for September 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009****10.9 Construction Reports: Milton # 4 Catholic Elementary School Construction Project and the New St. Peter Catholic Elementary School Replacement School Construction Project****# 85/09***Moved by: E. Viana**Seconded by: A. Iantomasi**RESOLVED, that Items 10.1 to 10.9 be received as information.***CARRIED****11. CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1 Minister K. Wynne – Green Clean Program Resource Guide

11.2 Nominations for Regional Director Positions – 2009 AGM

11.3 Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Transport re: OCSTA Resolutions

11.4 Council Chair, St. Marguerite d'Youville Catholic Elementary School: L. Hartman

11.5 Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School - School Council: E. Bell

11.6 Save our Buses, Georgetown

11.7 Mayor Rick Bonnette, Town of Halton Hills

12. OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

There was no question period.

13. IN CAMERA

There was no in-camera session.

14. RESOLUTION re ABSENTEES

There were no absentees.

15. ADJOURNMENT/CLOSING PRAYER

# 86/09	<i>Moved by: Father D. Wilhelm</i> <i>Seconded by: A. Iantomasi</i>
<i>RESOLVED, that the meeting adjourn.</i>	<i>CARRIED</i>

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m. with a closing prayer led by A. Iantomasi.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

APPROVED:

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Secretary of the Board

.....
Chair