

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date: May 17, 2016  
 Time: 7:00 pm  
 Location: Catholic Education Centre - Board Room  
 802 Drury Lane  
 Burlington, Ontario

Members Present	A. Danko (Teleconference)	A. Quinn
	H. Karabela	D. Rabenda
	P. Marai	J.M. Rowe
	J. Michael, Chair of the Board	S. Trites

Member Excused      A. Iantomasi

Student Trustees	J. Brown	M. Zapata
	C. Kemeni	

Staff Present	B. Browne	L. Naar
	C. Cipriano	J. O'Hara
	G. Corbacio	T. Overholt
	P. Dawson, Secretary of the Board	T. Pinelli
	C. McGillicuddy	A. Prkacin
	P. McMahan	

Also Present

A. Bartucci, Strategic Communications Officer  
 T Hoang, St. Ignatius of Loyola  
 R. Negoj, Senior Administrator, Financial Services  
 Students, Teachers and Mentors (Holy Trinity)  
 A. Swinden, Administrator, Strategic Communications Services  
 F. Thibeault, Administrator, Planning Services  
 K. Yanchus, Reporter

Recording Secretary      D. Ross

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1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

1.1 Opening Prayer: C. Kemeni

The meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. with a prayer led by C. Kemeni.

The Chair of the Board introduced and welcomed the student trustees for the 2016-2017 school year: *Christina Atrach*, Christ the King Catholic Secondary School; *Ingrid Schwecht*, Assumption Catholic Secondary School; and returning Student Trustee *Manuela Zapata*, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School.

1.2 Motions Adopted/Information Received In-Camera

P. Marai read the motions adopted and information received in-camera.

## Motion Adopted In-Camera:

*Resolved, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the central terms and conditions of employment contained within the Memorandum of Settlement dated April 18, 2016, made between the Principals' and Vice-Principals' Associations comprised of (Association des Directions et Directions Adjointes des Ecoles Franco-Ontarienne (ADFO), the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO) and the Ontario Principals' Council (OPC) and the l'Association des conseils scolaires des ecoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACEPO), l'Association franco – ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC), the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) and the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) and agreed to by the Crown. Further that the approval of the motion of the central terms be reported to OCSTA.*

## Information Received In-Camera:

## Retirements

Christine Fernandez, Clerio Fuciarelli, Lynn McAdam, John Merlini, Maureen Mitchell, Yvonne Petrie and Karen Steffler-Suitor retiring effective June 30, 2016.

## Hiring

Sara Alves hired as a probationary teacher effective May 24, 2016.

## Acting Secondary School Vice Principal

John Quinlan appointed as Acting Secondary Vice Principal effective May 24, 2016 to June 30, 2016.

## Acting Department Head, English/ESL/Moderns

David Martino appointed as Acting Department Head, English/ESL/Moderns effective May 16, 2016 to June 30, 2016.

## Department Heads

Eugene Amoroso, Sarah Armstrong, John Barbati, Anita Bator, Joseph Calzonetti, Anna Carambia, Elissa Cherubini, Naomi Coffey, Frank Jambrosich, Wendy Giroux, Alyson Little-Velianou, Teresa Marsilio DiGiuseppe, Michelle Mowat, Cynthia Obrovac, Mario Soster, Miranda Walsh, Izabella Waters and Ivan Yurgan appointed as Department Heads effective September 1, 2016 for a period of up to four (4) years.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

*#115/16*

*Moved by: A. Quinn*

*Seconded by: J.M. Rowe*

*RESOLVED, that the agenda be accepted as presented.*

*CARRIED*

## 3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

## 4. Presentations

- 4.1 T. Hoang, Grade 12 Student, St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School  
A. Prkacin introduced Tin Hoang, a grade 12 student at St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School who won the Give Respect, Get Respect poster contest in the HCDSB. She also recognized E. Tkalec, Art teacher at St. Ignatius of Loyola who recommended T. Hoang for the project. The three sets of banners T. Hoang created acknowledges our

commitment to the call to Truth and Reconciliation as a Catholic community. Director P. Dawson and Chair of the Board, J. Michael presented a certificate of recognition to T. Hoang for her memorable and meaningful contribution to our Education for Truth and Reconciliation Journey.

#### 4.2 Holy Trinity Robotics Team

C. Cipriano introduced R. Balech, a Math and Physics Teacher at Holy Trinity, students who are members of the school's Robotics team, as well as A. Azores and C. Hoo, alumni students, mentors and coaches for the team. The Robotics team has performed, competed and won several events during the past 5 years. The team also recently represented Board in a number of community events in Halton. C. Cipriano thanked Principal, J. O'Grady for supporting the students and teachers of the program.

R. Balech (teacher), A. Azores (mentor), C. Hoo (mentor), A. Hsieh (student), P. Pace (student), J. Sass-Gregoire (student) and P. Baerts (student), provided information regarding the philosophy of the team, the challenges teams of students face from around the world to design, build and program a robot in 6 weeks, the role of the mentors and coaches, and provided details regarding the competitions. Their robot, Thanatos, was introduced to trustees. A couple of videos were also shown: one on the focus and goals of the team; and one demonstrating a competition.

The Robotics team presented a token of appreciation to the Board of Trustees. The Chair of the Board and the Director of Education presented the team with a Certificate of Recognition. J. Michael thanked the team for introducing the concept of "Gracious Professionalism".

#### 5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

#### 6. Approval of Minutes

6.1 Regular Board Meeting - May 3, 2016

#116/16

*Moved by: J.M. Rowe*

*Seconded by: D. Rabenda*

*RESOLVED, that the minutes of May 3, 2016 Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.*

D. Rabenda asked that Item 10.7 of the minutes be amended to state "Trustee Rabenda expressed her appreciation to staff, the diocese and the parish".

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

#### 7. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

7.1 Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings

The Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings was received as information.

#### 8. Action Items

8.1 Social Studies Supplementary Resource Purchase Supporting First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education (A. Prkacin)

A. Prkacin addressed the report.

#117/16

*Moved by:* D. Rabenda

*Seconded by:* A. Quinn

*Resolved, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the purchase of Turtle Island Voices for Grades 4-6.*

In response to a question in terms of how the Curriculum resource approaches traditional stories in a Catholic context, A. Prkacin noted that the delivery of all programs is presented through a Catholic world view and lens. Teachers incorporate the focus on faith themes, stewardship, creation, human dignity, community and the common good in each lesson, regardless of the program being delivered.

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

- 8.2 Policy I-33 Classroom Observations by External Third Party Professionals - Amendment (P. Marai)

#118/16

*Moved by:* D. Rabenda

*Seconded by:* S. Trites

*RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy I-33 Classroom Observations by External Third Party Professionals as amended.* *UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

- 8.3 Policy II-2 Educational Assistants - Amendment (P. Marai)

#119/16

*Moved by:* A. Quinn

*Seconded by:* J.M. Rowe

*RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy II-2 Educational Assistants as amended.* *UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

- 8.4 Policy II-11 Daily Teacher Plans - Amendment (P. Marai)

#120/16

*Moved by:* H. Karabela

*Seconded by:* S. Trites

*RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy II-11 Daily Teacher Plans as amended.* *UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

- 8.5 Policy II-12 Management of Aggressive Student Behaviour within our Schools (P. Marai)

#121/16

*Moved by:* D. Rabenda

*Seconded by:* J.M. Rowe

*RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy II-12 Management of Aggressive Student Behaviour Within Our Schools as amended, at First Reading.*

*UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

## 8.6 Policy II-35 Access to School Premises - Amendment (P. Marai)

#122/16

*Moved by: H. Karabela**Seconded by: S. Trites**RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy II-35 Access to school Premises as amended.**UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

## 8.7 Policy II-39 - Progressive Discipline - Amendment (P. Marai)

#123/16

*Moved by: J.R. Rowe**Seconded by: D. Rabenda**RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy II-39 Progressive Discipline as amended.*

A question was asked whether there had been discussion at the Policy Committee Meeting vis-à-vis the Catechism of the Catholic Church regarding the following Requirement "The Board considers homophobia, gender based violence, and harassment on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, colour, ethnicity, culture, citizenship, ancestry, origin, religion, creed, family status, social economic status, disability and/or any other immutable characteristic or ground protected by the Human Rights Code, as well as inappropriate sexual behaviour unacceptable and supports the use of positive practices to prevent such behaviours and authorizes principals, or their delegate, to impose consequences in appropriate circumstances, up to an including a referral to the Discipline Committee of the Board for expulsion from all schools", specifically around the possibility that it may lead to a situation in which a student could, by only holding to the teaching of the Church, find him or herself in violation of our policy and subject to discipline if in that public expression of Catholic Moral Teaching were to cause another student to not feel accepted or in a safe environment. Throughout discussion, the need to look at the language through the lens of a Catholic institution, not through the function of the Ministry of Education was reiterated.

Staff indicated that the matter had been addressed at the Policy Committee meeting, that the language is in accordance with the Education Act and that the Policy was vetted through legal counsel.

A number of trustees and student trustees disputed the fact that the proposed requirement may lead to a situation in which a student could, by only holding to the teaching of the Church, find him or herself in violation of our policy and subject to discipline if in that public expression of Catholic Moral Teaching were to cause another student to not feel accepted or in a safe environment.

- Some were of the opinion that there needs to be a positive message where all students are accepted in our school;
- If the Policy is in accordance with the Human Rights code and references disciplinary action, based on gender, sex, homophobia and racism, is that not through a Catholic lens, since we are in effect protecting our brothers and sisters?
- The Policy, as written, easily distinguishes what is a Catholic discussion through the Catechism and what is a hate crime.

- The Board should be accepting of all and must protect all its students.
- Trustees were reminded that everyone in attendance at the Policy Committee meeting voted in favour of the Policy.
- Trustees were reminded that the template was vetted by all Catholic Boards in the province and the Board is currently being scrutinized by an arms-length branch of the Ministry.

Staff pointed out that the Policy outlines the investigation process and parameters for administrators, parents and students so they can understand what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour of students in schools. It is up to the administrator to follow through.

A suggestion was made to provide definitions for each of the terms. It was noted that those are clearly defined under the Human Rights Code.

Staff acknowledged that the Board will continue with its current Policy II-39, if the proposed amended policy is not approved.

A few trustees suggested that the Policy be sent to the Policy Committee for a more fruitful discussion.

Staff, in response to questions, provided clarification regarding the implementation of proactive practise, specifically accommodating learning styles and behaviours. As well, staff noted that timelines is difficult to prescribe but administrators are well aware of the urgency of the matter.

The Chair called for a vote:

In Favour	Against
Brown, Jackson (non-binding)	Quinn, Anthony
Kemeni, Chloe (non-binding)	Karabela, Helena
Marai, Paul	Trites, Susan
Rabenda, Diane	Danko, Anthony
Rowe, J. Mark	
Zapata, Manuela (non-binding)	

The motion was *DEFEATED*. The Chair acknowledged that the Policy would be brought back to the Policy Committee for further discussion.

8.8 Policy II-50 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) for Day School Students - Second and Third Reading (P. Marai)

#124/16

*Moved by: D. Rabenda*

*Seconded by: J.M. Rowe*

*RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and approve Policy II-50 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) for Day School Students.*

In Favour	Abstained
Brown, Jackson (non-binding)	Quinn, Anthony
Danko, Anthony	
Karabela, Helena	
Kemeni, Chloe (non-binding)	
Marai, Paul	
Rabenda, Diane	
Rowe, J. Mark	
Trites, Susan	
Zapata, Manuela (non-binding)	

## 9. Staff Reports

### 9.1 Burlington Rural and Alton Community School Boundary Review (G. Corbacio, L. Naar and P. McMahon)

Trustees were informed that a school boundary review process is required to address anticipated future student enrolment pressures at St. Anne Catholic Elementary school and to review the rural boundary assignment in an effort to identify increased efficiencies. The schools included in the review process were identified. The earliest implementation date for any boundary changes, if approved, would be September 2017.

In response to questions, F. Thibeault explained that there is no one currently living in the areas that will be impacted. In terms of the possibility of building a new school, F. Thibeault acknowledged that the long term yield does not justify the construction of a new school.

### 9.2 Core French Resource Selection (A. Prkacin)

A. Prkacin informed trustees that a recommendation will be coming forth on June 7<sup>th</sup> to purchase an anchor resource for the Grade 9 Academic-level and Grade 9 Applied-level Core French courses. She provided information regarding the proposed resource that comes in both, print and digital formats. When asked about the licensing renewal cost in 5 years, A. Prkacin indicated that she would obtain further details.

## 10. Information Items

### 10.1 Student Trustees Update

M. Zapata invited trustees to attend the OSTA-AECO Alumni Gala on Friday, May 27, 2016. She also welcomed the two new student trustees who will also be attending the OSTA-AECO Conference. She recognized their student senate mentors, Ms. Castellarin and Mr. Wong. M. Zapata addressed the activities taking place under the pillar of Achieving, J. Brown, under the pillar of Belonging and C. Kemeni, under the pillar of Believing.

### 10.2 Educational Field Trips (T. Pinelli)

When asked how the Robotics trips are subsidized, it was noted that some fundraising activities are done by students at the school level. Additionally, the school and the Board offer support and a corporate sponsorship is involved.

### 10.3 Outcome Monitoring Report - Mental Health (B. Browne)

Dr. Browne introduced P. Weber Callaghan, Mental Health Lead for the Board and provided an overview of the Board's approach in supporting student mental health

through the Mental Health and Addiction Strategy. Referencing the report, B. Browne elaborated on the activities undertaken in response to the needs across the system. He **drew trustees' attention to the following pillars: Talk; Learn and Support.** Staff is witnessing great results across the system, through the various programs implemented, at the ongoing and implementation stage of building capacity.

When asked if further investment would lead to better EQAO results across the Board, B. Browne elaborated on the Board's approach that mental illness is everyone's responsibility and must recognize that a teacher utilizes different assets to support students within their scope of practice. He acknowledged that additional funding in that area would be beneficial, however, the focus has been to make decisions that are fiscally prudent, and impact the most students. Regardless, there are great people and partnerships in place, special education teachers and classroom teachers who embrace the collective responsibility and will continue to do great things. Staff is looking at ways to do more with what we have.

B. Browne, as a follow-up to comments, addressed student needs in the classroom and reiterated the importance of looking at resources that supports capacity building and ways of making those impacts in our schools. He also acknowledged that the Board is fortunate to be able to approach things from a faith perspective. B. Browne provided information regarding programs and initiatives on mindfulness and assured trustees that everything is done through the lens of our Catholic faith.

10.4 2016-2017 Budget Estimates Update (P. McMahon)

P. McMahon addressed the report that outlines the activity staff has undertaken since the last Board meeting. There is currently an estimated \$4.2 million shortfall on funding for salaries and benefits using the benchmarks included in the technical paper. This does not include the \$5.3 million in benefit costs from other areas that do not have benchmarks on the technical paper.

In response to questions, P. McMahon provided additional information regarding the increase on existing benefits under the new provincial benefit trust plans.

10.5 Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS) Annual Home to School Transportation (P. McMahon)

P. McMahon provided an update on the status of three exempted areas of transportation under the Policy, two of which have been removed by the elimination of the traffic hazards. St. Anthony of Padua has not been fully addressed and parents/guardians will be advised in June as to whether or not the safety hazard is eliminated.

10.6 Updates to Ontario Regulation 444/98 and Ministry Community Hubs Initiatives (P. McMahon)

As a follow-up to a concern raised at a previous meeting, P. McMahon reviewed the changes to Regulation 444/98, where the period to offer surplus property has increased from 90 days to 180 days and the list of distribution to other parties has increased as well. P. McMahon provided information regarding the date these changes take effect. F. Thibeault confirmed that the Pupil Accommodation Review Policy and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines will require minor modifications. Trustees were encouraged to read the Community Hubs in Ontario Action Plan for additional details.



- 10.7 St. Gregory the Great Catholic Elementary School Monthly Construction Report (G. Corbacio)  
G. Corbacio indicated that construction of the new school is on schedule and staff are optimistic that the school will open in September.
11. Miscellaneous Information
- 11.1 CPIC Minutes - April 4, 2016
- 11.2 Policy Committee Minutes - April 12, 2016  
The minutes were provided as information.
12. Correspondence  
There was no correspondence.
13. Open Question Period  
There were no questions.
14. In Camera  
There was no follow-up In-Camera session.
15. Resolution re Absentees  
*#125/16*  
*Moved by: A. Quinn*  
*Seconded by: H. Karabela*  
*RESOLVED, that Trustee A. Iantomasi be excused from the meeting.* *CARRIED*
16. Adjournment and Closing Prayer: S. Trites  
*#126/16*  
*Moved by: A. Quinn*  
*Seconded by: S. Trites*  
*RESOLVED, that the meeting adjourn.* *CARRIED*
- The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m. with a prayer led by S. Trites.

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Secretary of the Board

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Chair