

**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
September 27, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.
Board Room, Catholic Education Centre**

Chair: A. Abbruscato
Vice-Chair: S. Hobin

Trustees: A. da Silva F. Di Cosola P. Ferreira
B. Iannicca S. McLauchlan E. O'Toole
M. Pascucci T. Thomas L. Zanella

Student Trustees: A. Binlayo N. Fernandes

Director of Education: J. B. Kostoff
Associate Director of Corporate Services and J. Hrajnik
Chief Financial Officer
Associate Director of Instructional Services: R. Borrelli

Superintendents: B. Bjarnason C. Blanchard J. Geiser
L. Kazimowicz S. Kendrick P. McMorrow
S. McWatters N. Milanetti G. Prajza
D. Oude-Reimerink G. Robinson C. Saytar
A. Tucciarone

Acting Superintendent: C. Pitroscia
Assistant Superintendent: M. Vecchiarino
Acting Assistant Superintendent: M. DeVellis

General Managers: B. Campbell J. Cherepacha R. Eberhardt
R. Lawton

Recorder: D. Reed

A Routine Matters

- 1 Call to Order and Attendance
Chair A. Abbruscato called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer
Chair A. Abbruscato led the Opening Prayer and welcomed students from the Ontario Institute of Technology and Brock University.

3. Declaration of Interest
Nil
4. Approval of the Agenda
 - i Approval of Consent of Calendar Items
 - a) Employee Population Report as of August 31, 2011

Motion 241 (11-09-27) by F. Di Cosola Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

- 5 Approval of Minutes, Regular Board Meeting, August 23, 2011

Motion 242 (11-09-27) by A. da Silva Seconded by S. McLachlan

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 23, 2011 BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

- ii) Business Arising from the Minutes
Nil

B Awards and Presentations

J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, introduced the Religious Orders and provided background information for each order.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic Award of Merit is presented in recognition of “outstanding contribution to the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and Catholic education.” Past recipients of this award include The Honourable William G. Davis, former premier of Ontario, Joseph Hugel, first director of education for the Dufferin-Peel Roman Catholic Separate School Board, and Victor Morgado, former Dufferin-Peel student who was a catalyst in the events leading up to the full funding of Catholic schools in 1985.

Representatives from the following Orders were presented with the award:

- Bishop John A. Boissonneau on behalf of Diocesan Priests,
- Sisters of St. Joseph
- Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
- Notre Dame Sisters
- Loretto Sisters
- Ursuline Sisters
- Felician Sisters

Representatives from the Basilian Fathers were unable to attend the presentation.

Motion 243 (11-09-27) by P. Ferreira

Seconded by L. Zanella

THAT THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC AWARD OF MERIT PRESENTED TO THE RELIGIOUS ORDERS BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

B 2 Catholic Graduation Expectations DVD – J. B. Kostoff

J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, introduced the DVD produced by the Institute of Catholic Education. The DVD will be shown to all Dufferin-Peel staff, to parent councils and trustees. Copies will also be given to each pastor and associate.

Trustee S. Hobin thanked ICE for the moving presentation.

Motion 244 (11-09-27) by A. da Silva

Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE CATHOLIC GRADUATION EXPECTATIONS DVD PRESENTATION, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

B 3 Proclamation – UNESCO World Teacher’s Day – October 5, 2011 – J. B. Kostoff

J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, announced that each year the board proclaims October 5 as UNESCO World Teachers’ Day in Dufferin-Peel, as a symbolic gesture in celebrations of our teachers and those who support the work of teachers.

Motion 245 (11-09-27) by L. Zanella

Seconded by B. Iannicca

1. THAT THE PROCLAMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) WORLD TEACHERS’S DAY – OCTOBER 5, 2011, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

Motion 246 (11-09-27) by L. Zanella

Seconded by B. Iannicca

2. THAT THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PROCLAIMS THAT OCTOBER 5, 2011 BE RECOGNIZED AND CELEBRATED AS WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY IN DUFFERIN-PEEL SCHOOLS AND FACILITIES AND THAT ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO THANK TEACHERS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN DUFFERIN-PEEL AND FOR THE OUTSTANDING WORK THEY DO WITH STUDENTS EACH AND EVERY DAY.

CARRIED

C Pastor's Remarks

Father Jim Roth, Priest in Residence, thanked trustees for inviting him to the meeting. He spoke about the challenge of change and the benefits for all who embrace change. During his remarks he referred to the launching of our new missal which will take place on November 27, 2011, the provincial election to be held on October 6, 2011, the launch of *'Our Story, Our Tradition, Our Journey'* and the explosion of cultural diversity.

Motion 251 (11-09-27) by P. Ferreira

Seconded by M. Pascucci

THAT FATHER JIM ROTH'S REMARKS BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

D Delegations

Nil

E Information/Reports From Trustees, For Receipt

i) Regular Reports

Nil

ii) Good News Item – Vice-Chair S. Hobin

1. Congratulations to Abigal Marsella, a student at Guardian Angels Catholic Elementary School, who created the winning design, in the junior category, in the 21st annual Terry Fox school poster contest. A copy of her poster was sent to over 3,500 schools across Ontario to promote the Terry Fox Run, in which many of our schools participated this month. Congratulations to Abigal. I would also like to extend a big thank you to everyone in our Dufferin-Peel community -- students, staff and families, for their continued support and dedication to the Terry Fox Foundation.
2. I would also like to congratulate the 361 graduates from our board, who received the province's Queen Elizabeth II, Aiming for the Top Scholarship this September. This scholarship recognizes students who have shown academic excellence at the high school level and assists with financial need. Scholarships range from \$100 to \$3,500, based on financial need. Students who maintain an 80 per cent average at their Ontario College or university can continue to receive their scholarship for up to four years. I wish these determined and hard working Dufferin-Peel graduates all the best in their post-secondary career.
3. Congratulations to Kathleen Grainger, a Notre Dame graduate whose article about John Frias, a Grade 9 student at Notre Dame, was recently published in a magazine called, *Play to Podium*. Kathleen helps John tell his story about being an organ transplant recipient, the ongoing challenges he faces, and his participation in the Transplant Games, a bi-annual, world-wide athletic event.

Both students show a high-level of maturity in the article and do a wonderful job raising awareness about organ donations.

Motion 252 (11-09-27) by A. da Silva

Seconded by S. McLachlan

THAT THE GOOD NEWS ITEMS BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

F Reports From Committees For Receipt For Receipt

1. Minutes of the Brampton Public Library Board Meeting, May 24, 2011

Motion 253 (11-09-27) by L. Zanella

Seconded by A. da Silva

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE BRAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING, MAY 24, 2011, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

2. Brampton Library, 2010 Annual Report

Motion 254 (11-09-27) by S. McLachlan Seconded by L. Zanella

THAT THE BRAMPTON LIBRARY 2010 ANNUAL REPORT, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

G Information/Reports From Administration, For Receipt

1. September Report From the Director of Education – J. B. Kostoff

Good evening,

I would like to provide trustees tonight with an update on the September start up that has affected more than 85,000 students and over 10,000 employees in Dufferin-Peel. Tonight we can bring greater clarity to this process, as we come to the end of this month.

If you would permit me to tell a few brief quotes, from giants in our world, whose work changed the lives of many.

- Tom Watson of IBM, once said, “There is a world market for about five computers, total”,
- Ken Olsen of Digital, once said, “There is a no reason why any one individual would want, or need to have a computer in his or her home.”

- Bill Gates once said “640k of memory should be a enough for anyone.” Currently, our cell phones carry more memory than that.
- And more locally, trustees heard that semestering at Holy Name would result in students and teachers leaving the school. Once again, a perception not borne in reality.

Each of these quotes reflect a particular view, but in the end, that view did not ultimately become reality. It was their best guess, but reality had a way of shaping the world that they hadn’t considered.

Last February we began to bring forward reports for action and receipt; reports on budgets, new schools, resources and population, with the perception of what we thought September would look like in our 127 schools. Tonight, I wish to provide some insight into the subtle shift that took us from our perception to our reality.

This year, we are educating 85,227 students. We were projecting a decline of 1.1% in enrolment but have decreased only .7%, which classifies us as a growth board. We gained over 350 secondary level students and lost only 8 elementary level students, leaving us above our projections. Our enrolment is down for a number of reasons, some of which have nothing to do with education, but with yield from communities, we see some interesting trends. The most recent issue of Issue and Events speaks to this phenomenon. At the elementary level we continue to retain over 96% of our students from grade 8 to grade 9.

Two weeks ago, reorganization saw a total of 36% of our classes either reorganized by adding or removing a class due to enrolment or class ratios.

- All of our 1,932 FDK spaces are now filled.
- Our board wide average in FDK is 28 students
- Primary (Grades 1-3), totalling 958 classes, 90% are capped at 20 students, 10% of those (106) are capped at 23.
- Grade ¾ split classes: all were capped at 23 students.
- Grade 4-8 Board wide average of 24.7.
- All within mandated averages.

As the secondary level, we began with a deficit of 976 students on the first day and today we have obliterated that deficit. In fact, we have increased our numbers by 331 students over projection at the secondary level this month. This trend tells us that open access students, parents and students continue to value the Catholic education we offer in our schools.

There will be more information on reports regarding population in the future coming forward.

We have also begun, this September, the full implementation of the New Healthy Food Policy in our secondary and elementary schools; a significant change for many in our daily practice. More information will be forthcoming as we work through this year.

Trustees also approved a policy on school fees that is shaping our practice starting this September.

With respect to hiring, we are pleased that we did not have to lay off teachers, as many boards do in September. We were actually in a hiring phase, with the addition of 37 Elementary French teachers, 35 speciality secondary, 253 elementary LTOs and 157 secondary LTO teachers to our system.

Our Full Day Learning, a plan that trustees approved over three years ago, has not only dealt with the increased enrolment in our FDL programs, but the safeguards we put in place to ensure we did not lose students, by redirecting them to half day programs, has also been successful. Our marketing program, this year, has been very successful in attracting parents, both to full day and half day programs.

Trustees approved, in late spring, the 2nd year of our Multi Year Plan, based on the Strategic Plan that is governing our practice and in-service in our schools. Last Spring, our School/Parish Baptism program began, inviting parents upon baptizing their child to become involved in Catholic Education. This program links Parish, School and Home, a goal in our Strategic Plan.

We opened two immersion sites with two grades in each site, grade 1 and grade 2 and two extended French classes, this year, to meet the demand. We had surveyed the community prior to bringing this proposal forward - an example of data drive decisions.

Your largest investment in Special Education this year has seen the hiring of a total of 37.5 qualified individuals to better service our identified students.

Our investments in school base resources for this September has been \$1.5 million for Science textbooks to support student achievement and \$2.0 million for text books for various subjects. All of these funds came from our accumulated surplus, as directed at the December 14, 2010 Board Meeting, for expending this fall.

In addition, we have launched our new Community Studies Project in Grades 7 and 10, which will provide students with an understanding and appreciation of this province and this region and the role Catholic Education has played in the development of our communities. Did these curriculum changes make a

difference? One only has to look at our EQAO scores and our equal concern over student well being, to see that we are educating students in a significant fashion.

Work is moving quickly on our new Loyola site. This is in addition to the grades we have added to Cardinal Ambrozic, St. Roch and St. Michaels.

This September, trustees approved a policy *on Dealing with Parental Complaints* and the *Role of the Trustee* that have been shared with the system and will govern our practice beginning this month.

Transportation

This September, 62,478 students have been bussed by STOPR; 19,994 Catholic students are bussed daily. STOPR has contracted a fleet of 1,280 buses to run each day in our community with a total of 5,460 daily bus runs.

STOPR has implemented 94 integrated ridership routes this year. This new process has had a very smooth transition over the past four weeks.

STOPR staff responded to 1,950 calls during the first week of the school. They addressed the placement of eligible students on busses and resolved routing issues.

The newly created businfo.stor.ca web site received over 35,718 contacts from August 29 to September 9, where parents were able to access information regarding route timetables, bus stop location and late bus arrivals. This is a new and seemly well used innovation by STOPR.

Technology

For this September:

- Installed 212 Smart Boards over the last 18 weeks. With these, we now have a total of 675 board-wide, since July 2007.
- During the summer, approximately 800 computers were refreshed.
- In preparation for the upgrade to Windows 7, a total of 3000 desktops in secondary received a memory upgrade.
- All elementary main offices were upgraded to Windows 7
- Two secondary schools were upgraded to Windows 7. This involved approximately 400 computers.
- Our first elementary school (Our Lady of Lourdes) using all Windows technology was set up.

Eco Green Schools

One third of our schools are certified as Green Schools. One of our System Goals is that another third of our schools receive green certification this year.

This review of our work in September has resulted in many superintendents, trustees, administrators, teachers, and support staff indicating that this year's start up was one of the smoothest in recent memory. This is not by accident. We made sure that our perception matched reality, and it started last February with this board.

Madam Chair I would like to conclude by thanking all involved in the Dufferin-Peel Family, for their hard work in helping make this year's start up a great one for our students and the families that we serve.

Thank you.

Trustee S. Hobin expressed her gratitude for the smooth September start-up and thanked Principals and Vice-Principals for a remarkable job.

Trustees asked that the report be forwarded to them via e-mail and that it be posted on the Board's website.

Motion 255 (11-09-27) by T. Thomas Seconded by B. Iannicca

THAT THE SEPTEMBER REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

2. Letter of Resignation from M. R. Smith-Weseloh, Principal

Trustee A. da Silva commented that M. R. Smith-Weseloh was a dedicated and outstanding administrator and that she will be missed by the St. Monica Catholic School community.

Motion 256 (11-09-27) by A. da Silva Seconded by L. Zanella

THAT THE LETTER OF RETIREMENT FROM M. R. SMITH-WESELOH, PRINCIPAL, BE RECEIVED WITH REGRET.

CARRIED

3. 2010-2011 EQAO Assessment Results: Celebrating and Sustaining Successes
– J. B. Kostoff, R. Borrelli, S. McWatters/S. Kendrick

J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, thanked teachers, administrators and students for their tremendous work. Results from the spring 2011 administration of the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) demonstrated remarkable results for Dufferin-Peel.

R. Borrelli, Associate Director of Instructional Services, provided comments prior to the video presentation on the assessment results. A summary of his comments are as follows:

There are two key factors that directly influence student achievement. One is the quality of instruction in the classroom and the second one is the quality of leadership at every level of the organization. Like other professions, teaching is a very dynamic profession where continued research over the last thirty years has yielded proven and affective ways of teaching a diverse student population. The challenge confronted by all school systems is to continually encourage and influence teachers to reflect on their practice and to embrace new teaching strategies and techniques that will ensure the success of all students. To succeed in this endeavour we must provide teachers with sound professional development opportunities as well as ensuring that the necessary resources are available to make the required transition.

This is where the quality of leadership, the second most important key, to improving student achievement and well-being comes in. By leadership, I refer to both the professional leadership of senior staff led by the director of education, as well as the leadership of principals and vice-principals and the leadership of our elected officials.

Over the last few years, we in Dufferin-Peel have assisted, encouraged, supported and expected that our supervisory officers, principals and vice-principals embrace a role of instructional leader. We know that by exercising this form of leadership we have been able to develop, implement, assess and evaluate a Catholic Board Learning Plan which promotes increased student achievement and well-being. Our Plan is aligned to the Ministry goals and to our own Strategic Direction. The Plan uses data to set realistic, measureable goals, not only in terms of academic progress but also in terms of students' well-being. We know that a welcoming, caring, inclusive and safe environment is most conducive to student learning.

The other most important aspect of leadership is that which is provided by our elected officials, the board of trustees. By setting strategic direction for the system, by aligning the budget to curriculum priorities, by adopting policies supportive of a welcoming, caring, inclusive and safe environment and by cultivating authentic and respectful relationship with senior staff, principals, vice-principals, teachers and parents, you continue to make a valuable contribution towards sustaining a culture of life-long learning in Dufferin-Peel.

The results of this year's EQAO testing will speak for themselves. We take great pride in what we have accomplished but we do acknowledge that we cannot rest on our laurels. There is more to be done and this is the challenge before us as we look ahead to the school year before us.

With this in mind I would like to express sincere gratitude to all who have contributed, either directly or indirectly, to this year's success - our teachers, our school administrators, our senior staff, our support staff, parents, students and yourselves, the board of trustees.

Following the Associate Director's comments, S. McWatters, Superintendent of Program and S. Kendrick, Superintendent of Special Education and Support Services, used a slide presentation to provide a comprehensive review of the 2010-2011 EQAO results for three groups of Dufferin-Peel students, as well as results over time. In addition, a brief overview of the monitoring related to Year 1 of the Catholic Board Plan (CBLP) and Year 2 CBLP plans are provided.

Examination of all nine 2010-2011 EQAO assessment results indicated that the proportion of Dufferin-Peel students achieving the provincial standard in Grades 3, 6, 9 and 10 (OSSLT) continued to improve.

Trustees thanked staff for the outstanding report and asked staff to forward the report via e-mail to all trustees along with a breakdown of the results by family of schools.

Motion 257 (11-09-27) by T. Thomas

Seconded by E. O'Toole

THAT THE REPORT "2010-2011 EQAO RESULTS: CELEBRATING AND SUSTAINING SUCCESSES," BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

H Trustee, Administration, Committee Reports Requiring Action

1. Minutes of the Administration and Finance Committee Meeting, September 12, 2011
- B. Iannicca

Motion 258 (11-09-27) by B. Iannicca

Seconded by E. O'Toole

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

With respect to the planned Power Plant in East Mississauga, Trustee P. Ferreira advised that the plan to build a gas-fired power plant has been cancelled.

2. Minutes of the Faith and Program Committee Meeting, September 19, 2011
- T. Thomas

Motion 259 (11-09-27) by T. Thomas Seconded by E. O’Toole

- 1. THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FAITH AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011, BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

Motion 260 (11-09-27) by M. Pascucci Seconded by T. Thomas

- 2. THAT THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SUBMIT THE REVISED LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF ENVIORNMENT EXPRESSING CONCERNS WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GREENFIELD SOUTH POWER PLANT IN MISSISSAUGA.**

CARRIED

Trustee M. Pascucci requested that the letter be forwarded to trustees via e-mail.

3. New Elementary School Site Selection for the Credit Valley and Bram East Communities – B. Bjarnason

B. Bjarnason, Superintendent of Planning and Operations, presented the background information with respect to the location of sites for the two new Catholic elementary schools in Brampton. Following a review of potential sites in Credit Valley and Bram East to determine the preferred site to construct each school, staff recommended Credit Valley # 1 and Bram East # 4.

Motion 261 (11-09-27) by S. McLachlan Seconded by A. da Silva

- 1. THAT THE REPORT TO THE BOARD TITLED “NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE SELECTION FOR HE CREDIT VALLEY AND BRAM EAST COMMUNITIES”, BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

Motion 262 (11-09-27) by S. McLachlan Seconded by A. da Silva

- 2. THAT THE BOARD SELECT THE CREDIT VALLEY # 1 (CV#1) AND THE BRAM EAST #4 (BE#4) SITES FOR THE PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.**

CARRIED

4. Refinancing Long Term Debt for Capital Projects – G. P. Robinson

Motion 263 (11-09-27) by S. Hobin

Seconded by A. da Silva

- 1. THAT THE REPORT ENTITLED “REFINANCING LONG TERM DEBT FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS” BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

G. P. Robinson, Superintendent of Financial Services and Treasurer, summarized the information contained in the report. The purpose of the report was to obtain Board approval to proceed with the refinancing of the Sinking Fund Debenture, under By-Law Number 126 totalling \$22,325,104 for 10 years maturing November 15, 2021.

Motion 264 (11-09-27) by S. Hobin

Seconded by A. da Silva

- 2. THAT THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD APPROVE BOARD BY-LAW NUMBER 126 TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT FROM THE ONTARIO FINANCING AUTHORITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$22,325,104 at 2.425% PER ANNUM INCLUDING AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF 0.025% FOR 10 YEARS MATURING NOVEMBER 15, 2021 PURSUANT TO A LOAN AGREEMENT UNDER SECTION 7 OF ONTARIO REGULATION 41/10.**

CARRIED

I Notices of Motion

Nil

J Additional Business

Nil

K Questions Asked by, and of, Board Members

1. In response to Trustee L. Zanella’s concern about new schools and street plan, B. Bjarnason, Superintendent of Planning and Operations, advised that school sites are reserved for several years. A future requirement could be to not situate the school near a curve.
2. Trustee F. Di Cosola requested a list of trustees who served as Chair/Vice-Chair of the board and standing committees.
3. Trustee M. Pascucci requested a scattergram for St. Sofia School.
4. Trustee M. Pascucci inquired about initiatives to attract students. J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education advised that a report will be presented this year as it is part of the Strategic Plan.

5. In response to Trustee S. Hobin's question regarding student fees, J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, explained that a report will be presented in November.
6. In response to Trustee P. Ferreira's inquiry regarding student admission, J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, advised that he will bring forward legal/liability information in correspondence to Supervisory Officers.
7. Student Trustee A. Binlay inquired about the Healthy Food Policy. J. B. Kostoff, Director of Education, asked him to forward to his attention information as to what students are looking for.

L Business/Questions/Information in Camera

Motion 265 (11-09-27) by B. Iannicca

Seconded by E. O'Toole

THAT THE BOARD RESOLVE INTO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR THE IN CAMERA SESSION.

CARRIED

M Rise and Report

Motion 266 (11-09-27) by P. Ferreira

Seconded by T. Thomas

THAT THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA IS PRESENTED AND THAT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS BE ADOPTED.

CARRIED

N Future Meetings

October 25, 2011

November 22, 2011

December 13, 2011

Organizational Board Meeting – December 6, 2011

O Adjournment

Motion 267 (11-09-27) by T. Thomas

Seconded by M. Pascucci

THAT THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

CARRIED

Secretary of the Board

Chairperson