

DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR
CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS**

Thursday March 5, 2009
7:00 p.m. Board Room
Catholic Education Centre

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: Nick Milanetti, Sandi Ham, Ehretia O’Hearn, Grace Williamson, Geoff Marinoff, Laurie Eschli, MaryAnn O’Mahoney, Ryan Dollimore, Sue Walker, Roberta Zamadar, Lynda Verlezza, Tresa Sanfilippo, Tony da Silva

ABSENT: Ann Horton, Vera Catani, Michelle Mack, Helen Kelly, Richard Armogonia, Firella Dirubbo

REGRETS: Luz del Rosario, Lina Nugent, Ed McMahon, Amaryllis Jones, Donna Luciani,

GUESTS: John Kostoff, Kathy Russell-Kwan, Bruce Campbell, Lucy Di Mascio, Lee McBain, Lelia Kopecny

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

- a. Opening Prayer – Lynda Verlezza, Mississauga South
 - i. Prayer for the April meeting – MaryAnn O’Mahoney
 - ii. Prayer for the May meeting – Anna Podesta da Silva
- b. Attendance
 - i. Welcome and Declaration of CCCSC representatives
 - ii. Declaration of Alternates by Family of Schools
 - iii. Identification of Observers
- c. Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2009
 - i. Motion to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2009 – Tresa Sanfilippo
 - ii. Seconded – Roberta Zamadar
- d. Approval of Agenda of March 5, 2009
 - i. Additions to the Agenda – presentation for parents Cultural Proficiency - Item Cd under Business
 - ii. Motion to approve the agenda as amended – Geoff Marinoff
 - iii. Seconded by Laurie Eshli

B. PRESENTATIONS

- a. System Review - John Kostoff, Director of Education
 - i. John presented an overview of the System Review which was undertaken in 2007/2008. The purpose of the review was to address a number of key issues including Catholicity, funding, communication, programming, diversity, school safety and overall satisfaction. The survey also provided the opportunity for respondents to identify, from their varying perspectives, board strengths, concerns and recommended areas of focus. The results of the survey will shape the policies and procedure over the next 5 years. Ehretia O’Hearn was a parent

- rep/CCCSC rep on the Systems Review Committee during the planning stage. The committee developed the questions and the process for analysing the results.
- ii. Over 1100 people responded to the survey which is considered a strong representation of our community. Some of the key results were as follows:
 1. Catholicity is a strength of the board. Faith is clearly demonstrated in local school communities. Gospel values are infused across all subject areas.
 2. Continued funding, viability and relevance of the board in the future was most often cited as a concern, calls for increased funding, concern for the future of publicly funded education in Ontario.
 3. Dufferin-Peel should focus on providing and expanding a variety of program options for students.
 4. Provide increased access to specialty programs.
 5. Focus on ways to preserve and promote publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario.
 6. Overall satisfaction with Dufferin-Peel schools and services – our schools enhanced the character development of our children and prepared students to become full and active members of society.
 7. Satisfaction with the Catholic learning environment and Catholic education, extra-curricular activities, program variety and board transportation.
 8. The link between Home, School and Parish is vital.
 9. Dufferin-Peel is a distinct alternative to the public board as evidenced by all stakeholders.

C. BUSINESS MATTERS

- a. Trustee Report –*Tony da Silva*
 - i. Budget process for 09/10 is underway. There is on-going consultation. Declining enrolment is a challenge which impacts funding. The budget receives approval from the board in May and then goes forward to the Ministry of Education for final approval. We have been able to modestly increase the French Immersion program and look to building new schools.
 - ii. System Review – The trustees are pleased overall with the results. A more detailed analysis is required to address the issues and determine how we can improve even though we have limited resources.
 - iii. Admin & Finance – The Capital Plan (what we are proposing over the next many years re: building new schools etc) was received. Trustees must determine priorities and how we should proceed.
 - iv. Peel Regional Police – Our board met with the Chief of Police who brought forward the various areas the Peel Regional Police are addressing at this time. He spoke about gang issues in the Region of Peel. 120 gangs were clearly identified in Peel Region which is a significant increase over the past few years. Approximately 25% of the gangs are problematic and involved in serious theft. 54 Police officers are assigned to 52 high schools. Trustee da Silva is involved in the Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network and this committee is looking at establishing a Youth Directorate to look at issues such as gangs. Recommendations from this committee will go forward to Queens Park.

b. Committee Updates and Responsibilities

i. In-Service Committee Updates and Important Dates – *E. O’Hearn*

1. February 12, 2009 – The Joe Rich event at the Mississauga Convention Centre was very well received. The committee is looking at various options for marketing future events and the ticketing process. Please see the article in the Director’s Bulletin and CCCSC Newsletter. A write-up will also be in “The Advocate”.
2. April 4, 2009 – School Council In-Service and Market Place – Registration brochures have gone out to school councils and principals. John Kostoff is the keynote guest speaking on “Keeping Catholic Education Alive”. Ron Morrish is speaking on “Discipline”. You are asked to please promote this event to councils/parents. Deadline for registration is March 27.
3. Next in-service meeting Tues Mar 24 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 102 at CEC. Anyone on CCCSC is invited to attend this meeting.

ii. OAPCE Report – *Roberta Zamadar*

1. OAPCE went to the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat and reported on the good news about the increase in learning scores. Podcasts for parents are available at www.abc123.org on a variety of subjects such as helping students with learning.
2. ICE (Institute for Catholic Education) - 2 items were brought forward a) the Labour Mobility Act III in which they will try to standardize teaching across the country and b) Grade 11 World Religions and they want it taught in the public schools as a grade 12 course. This is a concern because we don’t want to change our programming in Catholic education to move it to grade 12. Letters are being written to express concern.
3. An OAPCE Report form Roberta Zamadar is attached to the minutes.
4. OAPCE Reps meeting – the next meeting will take place at Loyola S.S. on March 11 at 7:00 p.m.
5. OAPCE Conference details are on their website giving costs, workshops, etc. The date is May 22 – 24. Brochures are coming out to schools next week. The Stained-glass window which was commissioned is being created by DP students and will be unveiled at the conference.

iii. SEAC Report – *Laurie Eschli*

1. Laurie reported on the SEAC meeting of February 11. They had a presentation on Community Involvement – Mental Health. They also had a presentation from Community Living citing statistics about Special Needs Canadians. In March, they will have a presentation on the budget giving SEAC members an opportunity to give input towards the budget.

iv. Parish Representative Report – *Gabriel Ogundele*

1. The group is still struggling because they are not always getting the support from the parish priests. There are questions arising about the role of the parish rep in secondary schools where they already have a chaplain.
2. The group is looking to have a retreat in the next few months with all parish reps.

v. School Council Handbook Committee – *E.O’Hearn*

1. Revisions to the handbook are complete. We will be adding a section that will include training material from the workshop held in the fall.

Specifically, workshops pertaining to the roles of executive members of school councils.

2. The revised handbook should be ready for distribution in April. It will be compiled in hardcopy and on DVD and will also be put on the CCCSC web-site.
- c. Family of Schools Reports
 - i. nil
 - d. Cultural Proficiency - *Nick Milanetti*
 - i. The Board is bringing Dr Randall Lindsay in from Los Angeles. He is a world renowned expert in the area of Cultural Proficiency. Dr. Lindsay will be conducting a 3 day workshop with our principals, vice-principals and some teachers. He would like to meet with some of our parents as well. This opportunity would take place on Monday April 20 – 7:00 p. m. at St. Aloysius Gonzaga S.S. More information will follow. The topic is Cultural Proficiency. CCCSC parent reps should promote this to your councils within your family of schools.

D. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

- a. Insurance coverage for parents – *Nick Milanetti*
 - i. Persons engaged in volunteer activity on behalf of the board are covered.
 - ii. If councils want more coverage beyond board insurance or are hosting an activity not sanctioned by the school (i.e.: dinner dance for adults), they should get their own insurance. This can be done through the Permit Dept. Employees working for the school board are covered.
 - iii. Nick is going to ask why DP-OAPCE reps are not covered by the OSBIE insurance policy and will bring the information back to next meeting

E. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

F. OTHER

- a. Volunteer of the Year Award. The information for this years award is going out to schools after March break. Submissions are due by May 1st. The presentation to the successful candidate will take place at the May 21st CCCSC meeting.
- b. Board's New Slogan – The new slogan is “A Tradition of Excellence In Catholic Education”. There is also a new 40th Anniversary logo that you will see on documents for this year.
- c. Michael Reist will be booked for Loyola in May – date and details to come
- d. Speeches - All schools have been undertaking speeches and also writing competitions. The topic is “The Value of Catholic Education”. Winners of the speech contest will be presenting at the board meeting at the end of April.

G. CLOSING PRAYER

H. ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 p.m.

- a. Motion to adjourn – Roberta Zamadar
- b. Seconded - Gabriel Ogundele
- c. **CARRIED**

I. NEXT MEETING

Thursday April 2, 2009

7:00 p.m. – Meeting – Board Room

FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday April 2, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Room, CEC
Saturday April 4, 2009 In-Service & Market Place	8:30 - registration 9:00 - 2:30 sessions & vendors	St. Marguerite d'Youville S.S.
Thursday May 21, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Room, CEC