

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Minutes

Date: June 11, 2013.

ITEM 1 PRAYER

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the First Floor Committee Room of the Father Kennedy Catholic Education Centre. A. Vecchiola led those present in prayer and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ITEM 2 ATTENDANCE

Present: A. Vecchiola, Co-Chair; L. Lech, Co-Chair
L. Conti; J. Hooper-Boyd; E. Pecyna; D. Taylor.

Administration: C. Ciapanna, Superintendent of Education.

Recording Secretary: Mrs. T. Campanella.

Regrets: P. Daly, Chairperson; P. Amos, Director of Education;
T. Hartnett; H. MacLeod.

ITEM 3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2012 MEETING

Approved. C. Ciapanna, Superintendent of Education, will check to ensure that all past minutes are on the Board website.

ITEM 4 REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Vecchiola/L. Lech

- Food and Beverage

In response to previous concerns, C. Ciapanna reported on the following:

- M. Hucal, Assistant Superintendent, sent a survey to all schools/parents regarding food and beverages in the schools
- challenge is mainly in secondary schools
- primarily 2 reasons
 - price (too expensive)
 - variety (not the kind of food students want)
- cafeterias must comply with Ministry of Education and Board guidelines

- must convince catering companies that it is best to satisfy students wants and needs in order to keep contract with school
- should send copy of survey to catering companies for their information

- School Closures/Opening
 - C. Ciapanna reported on the following:
 - two school closures, Holy Spirit and St. Columba. These schools are amalgamating with St. Ann, Hamilton. The only dilemma is Holy Spirit, which is a Heritage Language school, but all seems to be going smoothly. Presently, 65% of students from Holy Spirit will be attending the new school. Hopefully the new school will be ready by November.
 - 15 new classrooms are being added to St. Thomas More C.S.S. which will aid in removal of some portables.
 - Board has received funding for a new elementary school in Winona. The architect has been chosen. Will need name for new school and a contractor, which will be tendered.

- Staff Changes
 - C. Ciapanna reported on the following:
 - Portfolios – as of now, all portfolios will remain the same.
 - Board members – all Trustees will remain the same. The next election for Trustees is in 2014.
 - Principals – 4 retirees, 1 secondary, 3 elementary. Because of school closures, the elementary principals will be taken from the surplus.

P. Daly(C. Ciapanna for Mr. Daly)

C. Ciapanna reported on the budget process that the Board follows. He noted that there will be a focus on technology for the next 3 – 5 years, including a new initiative of bring your own devices to school.

P. Amos

Nothing to report at this time.

C. Ciapanna

- Parents Reaching Out Grants for 2013/14
 - Ministry hoping to finalize grant approvals by next week

- CPIC
 - C. Ciapanna explained terms of Committee members. Co-chairs can only be Co-Chairs for two two-year terms, then can stay on as a Committee member.

- BIPSA (Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement)
 - this document is used for helping student achievement in schools. Principals use this as a guide for the school improvement plan that must be made for each school on a yearly basis. There are 5 goals that the Board focuses on every year. This is discussed with the principals every year and a final version must be given to the Ministry of Education in October. The Committee was asked to peruse this document and contact C. Ciapanna's office with any comments/changes.

H. MacLeod/ L. Conti

- OAPCE
 - L. Conti updated the Committee on the annual meeting. L. Conti requested that J. Hooper-Boyd and D. Taylor be speakers at a future meeting.

- J.E.P.A.G.
 - discussion ensued regarding how to get parents to attend meetings. The following was discussed:
 - this problem is provincial – many boards say there is not enough or no parental involvement.
 - must get principals to encourage parents of JK/K students to attend meetings
 - must be sensitive to lifestyles of families – some families have very busy schedules
 - keep parent council meetings short – approximately one hour
 - change location / day of week for meetings to better accommodate those who wish to attend
 - get student perspective on how parents can participate in their education

D. Taylor

- Ministry of Community and Social Services, funding will be gone for students with developmental delays, who will be turning 18 and for students who will be turning 21, funding will stop completely.
- SEAC has not had a response to the concerns that were sent to the Ministry

ITEM 6 FUTURE MEETING DATES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.
Tuesday, December 10, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.
Tuesday, February 25, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.
Tuesday, May 27, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.

ITEM 7 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.