



May 11, 2020

Teleconference

Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Trustees:

- Judy Wawia, Chair of the Board
- Amanda Monks, Vice-Chair of the Board
- Marline Ilijow
- Shirley Jean
- Kristy Lachance (Excused Absence)
- Chereyl Marino
- Hugh McCorry
- Lawrence McParland
- Lilliana McPherson

Administration:

- Maria Vasanelli, Director of Education
- Kerry Desjardins, Superintendent of Education
- Rima Mounayer, Superintendent of Education
- Leah Vanderwey, Superintendent of Education
- Barry Biggs, Plant & Field Services Manager
- James Salo, Assistant Plant & Field Services Manager
- Valarie Nakani, Manager of Human Resources

- George Scott, Finance Manager
- Billy Luby, Information Technology Manager

Recorder:

- Deana Figliomeni, Executive Administrative Assistant & Communications Officer

Meeting began at 1:03 pm with Trustee Wawia in the Chair.

1. Opening Prayer and Acknowledgment

The prayer read by Trustee Judy Wawia.

Loving God,

You sent your Son, Jesus, to be our hope. We feel his promised Spirit at work within us; We recognize his risen presence among us as we gather in his name in prayer, and celebrate the Eucharist. He is the hope which inspires us to share as members of the Catholic educational community, in your church’s mission to announce the Good News to the whole world. We thank you for the gift of Catholic education. May it continue to be a place where Christ ignites within us, an abiding confidence, in a future filled with hope.

We make this prayer through the same Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

The acknowledgement was read by Trustee Judy Wawia.

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather today is the ancestral territory of the Anishinaabe and the Métis. We wish to recognize and show respect to the long history and contributions of the First Nations and Métis Peoples in Ontario, as well as, the Inuit People of Canada

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution #29/20

Moved by Trustee McCorry

Seconded by Trustee McParland

THAT the agenda for Board meeting #6/20 being held on May 11, 2020, be accepted as amended.

Carried.

Amendments include the addition of recommendation of Purchase Order Approval for flexible seating project at St. Edward Catholic School, Holy Saviour Catholic School and St. Martin Catholic School.

Resolution #30/20

Moved by Trustee McPherson

Seconded by Trustee Ilijow

THAT the Board acknowledges and accepts the excused absence of Trustee Lachance from attending Board Meeting #6/20 held May 11, 2020.

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Resolution #31/20

Moved by Trustee Jean

Seconded by Trustee McCorry

THAT the [minutes for the Board Meeting #5/20 held April 15, 2020](#), be accepted as received.

Carried.

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

5. Reports

a. Student Achievement

i. [Maria Vasanelli - Director of Education](#)

This report was prepared for the Ministry of Education to keep them informed of what was happening during this time within our Board.

Students are online across the board. The committee brainstormed to find solutions on how to get internet and/or mobile hotspot if cell

service was available. Anyone who requested to have access we went above and beyond to get the internet. All barriers were taken away from our families to make it equitable. The only students not online are the ones who have chosen not to participate and our attendance counsellor is working to reach out to them.

Ministry updates: Maria has attended regular Ministry and CODE meetings. MEMO regarding teachers providing more synchronous teaching came out Friday. This was a result of feedback from parents across the province. Ontario College of Teachers supports synchronous learning and conversations continue with the OECTA teaching union regarding this.

Voluntary Deployment of Employees - anyone that would like to volunteer in an old age home would be allowed – would have to be approved by the Director of Education.

Reopening of schools is unknown - Ministry looking at opening up Boards at different times. Working to ensure we are ready for schools to open and ensure all supplies required are available as we transition back. A committee for re-opening schools has been established. The Ministry is to make an announcement this week.

CEC staff and Principals are working diligently throughout this time to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students and families. We are taking away what we have learned during this time and fusing it into our teacher learning when we do return.

Working with a researcher at LU and she is leading an internal research team. Learning opportunity during working through a pandemic.

ii. [Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education](#)

Numbers will be sent to Trustees to provide information regarding the number of Food baskets that have been distributed.

Northern Fruits and Vegetable Program Phase 1 was reaching out to First Nation communities to see if they wanted to receive the product. Phase 2 is now contacting all our school communities to see if there is a need for the program to continue within our

communities. TBDHU is getting a team together to package the product, which will then be distributed in the schoolyard or through the food banks in local communities. Geraldton is the largest community that hampers are being provided. Thunderbird Friendship Centre will receive NFVP on our behalf.

Graduation - Minister of Education has asked that graduations and proms for grade 12 not be cancelled and that they are held in the summer or early fall. For our Board, we will have online graduations and those plans are being worked on at this time. Gifts from the schools and the Boards are being provided.

EAs and ECEs - MEMO was sent out for Roles and Responsibilities, lots of EAs are participating in the classrooms of the students that they support. They also connect one on one with the students to work on the completion of the tasks. They are also working on professional learning for Autism as well as down syndrome and many different learning opportunities. They have been working hard to connect and reach out to the students that they support.

Professional learning and Mental Health - Dr. Jody Carrington session with all of our staff tomorrow. Discussing relationships and creating connections with our students during this time. Permission has been asked to record her to share with our staff internally, and are just waiting back from her agent regarding this request.

iii. [Rima Mounayer - Superintendent of Education](#)

Attendance portfolio working on student engagement. Ms. Roxborough is following up with Principals and students who are not connected. We currently have a small number of referrals of students who are not connected.

VERSA Program - an addition to Trillium This is a program just for our Board to use internally for data collection. The VERSA program will be ready to start in September during the Math PD Day.

iv. [Leah Vanderwey - Superintendent of Education](#)

Survey comments were very interesting and Trustee McPherson thanked L.Vanderwey for that feedback. Through the responses, it

was evident that the kids are engaging. Communication with families during this time is essential.

Native Language books and lesson plans that were created for National Indigenous Month in June. Like the books we read as part of a virtual read aloud, we will implement the same kind of idea during the week in June.

b. **Finance** - George Scott, Manager of Finance [Monthly Report](#)

The consolidation report has been completed and submitted online.

Estimates for the 2020-2021 school year are due in June, and we are likely to get an extension. GSN Funding has not yet been received from the Ministry and once this information is received we can get the estimates completed.

Ginoogaming First Nation - a new advisor was appointed and we have received a check for \$857,000 for the outstanding funds that are owing. This amount goes into our reserves and we are able to use this money as a benefit to our Board as a whole. All related to billing from prior years.

Audit committee meeting - There will be one before the next board meeting and information will be brought to all Trustees.

i. [Financial Report as of April 30, 2020](#)

Provincial legislative grants are given back due to strike. This will be taken out of next year's cash flow. Ministry is still in discussion of whether PD funds will be called back or carried over to next year.

The Ministry is requiring that school boards not charge licensed child care centres or EarlyON Child and Family Centres located in schools any accommodation costs during the closure period. Our board had already taken this step prior to the Ministry memo.

ii. [Borrowing Resolution](#) and [Schedule A](#) - Loan from CIBC

Resolution #32/20

Moved by Trustee McCorry

Seconded by Trustee McPhershon

THAT the Board approve a BY-LAW authorizing the Superior North Catholic District School Board (the "Board") to borrow money pursuant to the provisions of section 247 of the Education Act (the "Act") for the raising of funds to finance certain permanent improvements as more particularly described in this By-Law.

Whereas:

- a. The Board has authorized the permanent improvements as detailed in Schedule "A" attached to this By-Law;
- b. The Board wishes to apply to the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC") for a capital loan for the purpose of financing the permanent improvements;
- c. The total cost of the project is within the Board's Debt and Financial Obligation Limit as established by the Ministry of Education and Training.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Chair and the Secretary of the Board are authorized on behalf of the Board to borrow \$4,483,800 for permanent improvements in accordance with the Act, plus interest at a rate to be agreed upon from time to time with CIBC.
2. The Chair and the Secretary are authorized for and on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver all such other documents and to do such other acts and things as may be necessary to give full effect to this By-law.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a By-law of the Superior North Catholic District School Board in the Province of Ontario, duly passed at a meeting of the Board and that this By-law is in full force and effect.

Dated this 11th day of May, 2020.

Carried.

- c. **Plant & Field Services - [Barry Biggs, Plant and Field Monthly Report](#)**

Currently, all buildings are locked down. The process if required is to request either Mr. Biggs or Ms. Vasanelli. The custodian then goes and meets the person at the school, the person wears gloves and enters only the areas they need to access. The custodian then cleans the areas entered as soon as they leave and the building is locked up again.

Appraisal for Simcoe plaza has been completed.

Since the closure, all contractors have been banned from the building. It was announced that some projects could start back up. The critical construction projects only include projects that need to continue on to allow them to open up in September. We currently still do not have contractors in any of our buildings. Our architect has been working on the projects we hope to continue to complete in the spring and fall. We do have projects waiting for tenders or deferring tenders. These tender sites are currently locked down at this time. All playgrounds have been taped off to ensure no kids are playing on structures.

Buildings are being inspected by custodians every 48 hours.

A document that has been created to outline the process of what we are allowed to do should be able to re-open. Materials PPE and devices have been ordered and having this delivered to Nipigon school and will be distributed from there. Non-essential travel is not being done during this time.

Resolution # 33/20

Moved by Trustee Jean
Seconded by Trustee Ilijow

THAT the Board approve the purchase of furniture for St. Edward Catholic School for the Flexible Seating Project for the amount of **\$ 221,221.34**.

Attachment: [Purchase Order 26054 Revised](#)

Carried.

Resolution # 34/20

Moved by Trustee Marino
Seconded by Trustee McPherson

That the Board approve the purchase of furniture for Holy Saviour Catholic School for the Flexible Seating Project for the amount of **\$181,485.66**. (Previous approval amount was \$163,434.68)

Attachment: [Purchase Order 26057 Revised](#)

Carried.

Resolution # 35/20

Moved by Trustee McCorry
Seconded by Trustee Marino

That the Board approve the purchase of furniture for St. Martin Catholic School for the Flexible Seating Project for the amount of 100,512.60

Attachment: [Purchase Order](#)

Carried.

Resolution # 36/20

Moved by Trustee McPherson
Seconded by Trustee Marino

THAT the Superior North Catholic District School Board approves the Purchase Order in the amount of 140,120.00 for the Flooring Replacement Project at St. Joseph Catholic School.

Attachment: [Purchase order](#)

Carried.

d. **Information Technology** - [Billy Luby Monthly Report](#)

Video conferencing over the phone for zoom can be arranged to provide support. 8 families were helped to get connected with wi-fi. Logistics were coordinated by the school principals once the families were set up. All computers that were given out during this time will be returned to the Board in the same shape they were delivered. Documentation has been made as to who as what devices. Set up to work at home remotely went well.

M.Ilijow thanked the staff, director, superintendents, principals and teachers for all the work they have done.

6. Decision and Action Items

a. Policies and Administrative Procedures

Resolution #37/20

Moved by Trustee Jean

Seconded by Trustee McParland

THAT the Board approves the following *revised* policies and administrative procedures for distribution:

1. [Policy HR 502 Admission of Students](#)
2. [Administrative Procedure HR 502 Admission of Students](#)
3. [Policy ES-303 Code of Conduct](#)
4. [Administrative Procedure AP-ES 303 Code of Conduct](#)

Carried.

7. Information and Discussion Items

- a. Online OCSTA Trustee AGM

Trustee Wawia attended the mock AGM - After attending, recommend that one trustee attend and take everyone proxy and vote on behalf of the group. Ensure the proxies are given out ahead of time. D.Figliomeni and M.Vasanelli will follow up with the process to ensure they are received on time.

8. Committee of the Whole

Resolution #38/20

Moved by Trustee McParland

Seconded by Trustee Ilijow

THAT we resolve into Committee of the Whole with Trustee Wawia in the Chair and that the meeting shall not be open to the public pursuant to Section 207 (2) of the Education Act (R.S.O., 1980).

Carried.

Resolution #39/20

Moved by Trustee Marino

Moved by Trustee Ilijow

THAT the Board moves out of the Committee of the Whole and reconvenes as a Board in public session and accepts all recommendations contained therein.

Carried.

9. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Loving God,
You sent your son, Jesus, to be our hope.
We feel his promised spirit at work within us.
We recognize his risen presence among us as we gather in his name in prayer, and celebrate the Eucharist.
He is the hope which inspires us to share as members of the Catholic educational community, in your Church’s mission to announce the Good News to the whole world.
We thank you for the gift of Catholic education.
May it continue to be a place where Christ ignites within us, an abiding confidence, in a future filled with hope.
We make this prayer through the same Christ, our Lord.

Resolution #40/20

Moved by Trustee Jean
Seconded Trustee McCorry

THAT the Superior North Catholic District School Board meeting on May 11, 2020 adjourn at 3:05 pm.

Carried.

Originally signed by

Originally signed by

Judy Wawia,
Chair of the Board

Maria Vasanelli,
Director of Education