



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT BOARD ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Monday, January 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre
420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg

Board Advisory Council Members Present:

Michelle Jardin – Christ the King Catholic School
Karen McGrail – Holy Rosary Catholic School
Michele Jones - Monsignor Uyen Catholic School
Jeff Szusz - St. Agnes Catholic School
Janice Morrison - St. John Fisher Catholic School
Nancy Geniole & Amy Finn - St. Joseph Catholic School, Chatham
Deb Ready - St. Joseph Catholic School, Tilbury
Cathie Vanek & Wendy Vercauteren- St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville
Sue VanLeiyen – St. Philip Catholic School
Lori Arnold - St. Vincent Catholic School
Kelly Brown - St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School
Tracey Perks-Whitson - St. Patrick Catholic High School
Jeannie VanDenEnden - Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School

Absent:

Louisa Valihora - Georges P. Vanier Catholic School
Jen DeBruyne, Good Shepherd Catholic School
Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School
Dan Bourdeau - Holy Family Catholic School
Rhonda Jubenville-Stallaert - Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School
Tracey Jardine - Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton
Anne Marie Ramsdale - Sacred Heart Catholic School, Sarnia
Kathy Johnson - St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Mary Lou Falla – St. Anne Catholic School, Sarnia
Tony Gabriele - St. Benedict Catholic School
Carolyn Nogueira - St. Elizabeth Catholic School
Michael Vandevenne – St. Joseph Catholic School, Corunna
St. Margaret Catholic School
Debra Hoek - St. Michael Catholic School, Bright's Grove
Rebecca Kalp - St. Michael Catholic School, Ridgetown
St. Peter Catholic School, Sarnia
Dana Stevens - St. Peter Canisius Catholic School
Kelly Curry - St. Therese Catholic School
Jodi Vlasman & Anne Marie Ryan - St. Ursula Catholic School

Trustees and Administration Present:

Paul Wubben	Ann Sutton
Jane McLaughlin	Deb Crawford
Judy Beatty	Cindy Waddick
Christine Lambert	

Resource: Paul Wubben
Recorder: Cathy Calvert

1. Opening Prayer

Director of Education opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Cindy Waddick, Elementary Chaplaincy Leader - led the opening prayer.

2. Information/Discussion Items

a) Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education Membership - J. VanDenEnden

- The Director of Education opened this topic by explaining what OAPCE is and the value of this organization
- Jeannie VanDenEnden is the Regional Representative for St. Clair Catholic and is also on the Board of Directors
- Jeannie handed out 2 pieces of information from OAPCE which explain their mandate and the benefits of OAPCE membership
- OAPCE AGM will be held this year in the Niagara area with Dr. Malloy as the featured speaker
- BAC members were asked to take back the information to their school councils and request that they pay their membership \$64.00/school council.
- BAC members were also requested to see if their school councils would send a rep to attend AGM
- A letter will be forwarded to the school councils from the Director of Education's office from Friends and Advocates of Catholic Education.

b) Calendar - D. Crawford, Superintendent of Education

- Draft 2010-2011 school year calendar was presented to the Board Advisory Council
- Ministry requirements are: a minimum of 194 school days with 2 PA days designated by Ministry and 4 PA days designated by board as well as 10 exam days. The Christmas holiday and March Break are set by the Ministry.
- The 2010-2011 school year would be 1 day short of the number of mandatory 194 days if we were to begin the school on September 6th, the Monday following the Labour Day weekend.
- Discussion between Lambton Kent District School Board and the unions has occurred. There is agreement that the first day of school for students would be September 6, 2010. Staff would return to school for a PA day prior to the Labour Day weekend. The first PA day would take place on September 2nd; September 3rd would then be a Board Holiday. This would result in 194 instructional days in the 2010 – 2011 School year as mandated by the MOE
- June 30th may also be designated as a PA day
- The remaining 4 PA days are under discussion, as this is a preliminary draft.
- Due to shared transportation we must consult with the Lambton Kent District School Board
- Questions from BAC members:
 - Why is there a PA day on June 13th? This is to accommodate the Ministry mandate that there be a PA day 2 weeks before the delivery of report cards to facilitate elementary teacher report card preparation.
 - Why is there a PA day on February 2nd right after exams? This PA day will be designated for elementary teacher report card preparation for the first term reporting period. At secondary, the day will be used for assessment, evaluation as well as to prepare for the second semester.
 - What is the reason for the placement of the exam days? Exam days occur at the end of the semester. The school year is divided into two secondary semesters.
 - Could there be 2 PA days before the start of classes so there is not as much instructional time lost to PA days during the year? The doubling up of PA days loses the effectiveness of the PA days.
- One message out to school councils: students will not be starting school before Labour Day next year.

c) Muskoka Woods - D. Crawford

- Almost every school in Kent county is involved in Muskoka woods
- It was decided to wait to implement in Lambton until the St. Chris and St. Pat's ARC process was completed
- This year we are sending St. Chris and St. Pat's students to the camp to become leaders

- Grade 7 students from the South Sarnia Schools will be the first schools in Lambton to go to Muskoka Woods
- After this, if the program is wanted it will be opened to all Lambton schools
- Camp is faith filled, leadership and team building experience
- \$800 - \$1600 / week is the regular cost to send a child to Muskoka Woods
- The camp is located on Lake Rosseau in Muskoka with 1000 acres and 2800 feet of shoreline on
- A video which was produced last year by UCC students highlighting the Muskoka Woods adventure last year was viewed
- Totally inclusive camp i.e. students with special needs attend with everyone else
- Elementary and Secondary Students as well as Staff who have gone to the camp leave having gained much from their experience and had a lot of fun
- Cindy Waddick said it was a life changing experience for her and for the students
- The Director has arranged for a bus for Trustees, Lambton Kent Deaneries, Staff and Parents who are interested in going to the camp to see what the experience is all about. This will include their food and lodging for the 50 people to gain insight and to become advocates for the Muskoka Woods experience
- Hopefully the Grade 8 end of year trips will in time become a follow up from the Muskoka Woods trip which the students will have taken in Grade 7.

d)Equity & Inclusion - A. Sutton

Equity & Inclusion is a government initiative

- All school boards are to create policies and procedures on Equity and Inclusion which will mandate inclusion of every student
- 4 year plan
- This initiative fits in with our Catholic Values
- Equity means equal outcomes to develop people to their fullest potential
- Ministry mandates embedding principles of equity and inclusion in everything
- Policy must be in place by the end of this school year for the beginning of September 2010
- Goals: shared leadership – policy and practice – accountability and transparency
- 2009 Director’s Annual report has incorporated equity and inclusion into it
- BAC members were asked if there were any questions.
- How will this affect our Catholic rights? This is currently being addressed at the provincial level.
- BAC members were asked to fill out questionnaire to be submitted to Ann as part of the consultations which must take place.

e) Full Day JK/SK - P. Wubben

- Selection of schools was made with discussion with community partners and Lambton Kent District School Board
- The locations are: St. Joseph, Chatham; St. Agnes, Chatham; Holy Family, Wallaceburg; St. Benedict, Sarnia
- Our board was given 7 classes and our sites were chosen by the following criteria: available space; system average of 26 students; need.
- Fully implementation in 5 years
- Criteria: 26 students; ECE and a Teacher in the room; child care before and after school must be offered
- There will be 19 classes offering full day JK/SK at LKDSB
- Registration will be the last week of February
- Cost of before and after care need to be congruent with LKDSB
- Things yet to be finalized: matters regarding ECE’s and the curriculum still needs to be written

f) H1N1 - P. Wubben

- Different approaches were used by Health Units to distribute the vaccine: in Kent they conducted area clinics; in Lambton they had clinics in schools and every child was immunized
- The H1N1 began in late September and by first week in November it was starting to wane
- Early indicators suggest that there may not be an echo in the spring
- Jane McLaughlin thanked the Director and his team for their preparedness in the planning for the H1N1.

g) **School Newsletters**

- Discussion on sending out school newsletters by email
- Hardcopy could still be sent for families who do not have a computer
- A board Twitter account could be set up to more effectively communicate with parents
- Discussion on using school websites more effectively.

3. **Future Meeting Dates**

May 10, 2010 - Bishop Fabbro will be the guest speaker

4. **Closing Prayer**

Cindy Waddick closed with prayer

5. **The meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m.**