



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT BOARD ADVISORY COUNCIL

NOTES

Monday, October 15, 2012 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
 Wendy Vercauteren - Good Shepherd Catholic School
 Michelle Gerritk – Holy Rosary Catholic School
 Diane Gillis & Megan Lemak- Monsignor Uyen Catholic School
 Bridget Blonde - Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School
 Julie Paulics - Sacred Heart Catholic School, Sarnia
 Lori Thibault - St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
 Terri Hutchins – St. Anne Catholic School, Sarnia
 Rose Yazbeck - St. Elizabeth Catholic School
 Kim Godin - St. John Fisher Catholic School
 Margaret Butler - St. Joseph Catholic School, Chatham
 Tressa Brown - St. Joseph Catholic School, Corunna
 Tiffany Branton - St. Matthew Catholic School
 Lissa Stinson, Deb Hoek & Nicole Denomme - St. Michael Catholic School, Bright's Grove
 Heather Heyboer & Jeanne Boersma- St. Michael Catholic School, Ridgetown
 Allison Mevis – St. Philip Catholic School
 Nina Malcolm - St. Ursula Catholic School
 Dianne Hooker, Heather Sullo Betty gooch- St. Vincent Catholic School
 Jeanne Van Den Enden - OAPCE
 Michelle Gerrits - St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School
 Karen Lupi - St. Patrick Catholic High School
 Sheri Reuten - Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School

Absent:

- Georges P. Vanier Catholic School
 Tammy Simrak - Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School
 Kimberly McAuley - Holy Family Catholic School
 - Holy Trinity Catholic School
 Tracey Jardine - Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton
 Caitlind Lesveque - St. Agnes Catholic School
 - St. Joseph Catholic School, Tilbury
 - St. Peter Canisius Catholic School

Trustees and Administration Present:

Carol Bryden	Paul Wubben	Renee Culverwell
Brenda Rumble	Shirley Churchill	Luana Sfalcin
Renee Culverwell	Luana Sfalcin	Adrien Gagnier
Adrien Gagnier	Lisa Demers	

Chair: Brenda Rumble

Resource: Paul Wubben

Recorder: Cathy Calvert

Ms. Brenda Rumble, Trustee, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

1. Opening Prayer

**B. Rumble,
Trustee**

Ms. Rumble opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Mental Health Strategy

**L. Demers,
Principal-Special Education**

- Ms. L. Demers opened this part of the meeting
 - The group will be presenting a 3 part presentation:
 - An overview of Ontario Mental Health Strategy, *Open Minds, Healthy Minds*
 - We have a 3 year plan which has begun with hiring Mental Health workers who are currently in selected schools.
 - 8 Mental Health Nurses have been hired and are responsible for the area from Windsor to Chatham-Kent and all school boards within that area.
 - Presentation of the *St. Clair Catholic District School Board Mental Health Plan* which follows the Provincial outline promoting the coming together of Community Agencies, School Boards and Health Care settings.
 - Anxiety: How to help anxious children.

3. Strong Catholic Families : Strong Catholic Youth

**C. Bryden,
Trustee**

- Every year Ministry of Education gives parent groups the opportunity to apply for grants to work with other parent groups
- This year 3 school boards, London District Catholic School Board, Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board and St. Clair Catholic District School Board have come together and have applied for this grant - Nutrient Resiliency in Catholic Families.
- 1st part of this 3 part event is to invite 2 people from every school, the Parent Council Chair and one other person, to come on to a presentation by Dr. Ferguson, who is one of the authors of the Ontario Strategy on Mental Health. This presentation will be on November 20, 2012 at the Four Points Sheraton in London beginning at 6 p.m. with dinner, Dr. Ferguson and others will speak that evening on Resiliency in the Family.
- 2nd part will be in January 2013 and will be hosted by the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and will be open to all families.
- 3rd part will be held in May 2013 and will also be open to all families.

4. OAPCE

J. Van Den Enden

- J. Van Den Enden is the Regional Representative for Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education
- Organization was begun in Windsor by Monsignor Pheeney.
- May 24 & 24, 2013 is the 74th AGM and Conference – additional information on their website: www.oapce.on.ca
- Members were requested to take this information to their Parent Councils.

5. Amalgamation

**P. Wubben,
Director of Education**

- Premier Dalton McGuinty has as of this evening resigned, so everything may change.

- 1968 - 69 was first amalgamation in Ontario
- 1997 – was the second amalgamation
- Since 1997 St. Clair Catholic District School Board has had declining enrolment.
- Small boards are deemed to be less efficient.
- The budget announcement, last March (2012), there was a small note of amalgamation. The reason is to reduce Administration and Trustees costs as most of the board's expenditures goes into salaries.
- We have no other information at this time.
- April 2012, the Minister of Education spoke to **Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)** and they were told amalgamation would be voluntary.
- July 2012, the Assistant Deputy Minister said boards would have information by the end of September 2012; nothing has come forth as of this date.
- School Boards with populations under 16,000 are the boards being considered for amalgamation.
- These smaller boards may choose their partners for amalgamation this falls to the Directors of Education to discuss.
- St. Clair Catholic will be one of the Boards which will be amalgamated. Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board, Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board as well as London District Catholic School Board also have declining enrolments.
- Amalgamation will not have much effect on schools but will have an effect on the staff of the CEC.
- Information is expected in the next few weeks but with tonight's announcement that may change that timeline.

6. Provincial Labour Issues

**C. Bryden, Trustee &
P. Wubben, Director of Education**

- Ms. C. Bryden - from trustee point of view – province has lead a discussion table around agreements for employees. The province has acted as a lead. In the past the agreements have always been struck between the boards and the employee group.
- Mr. P. Wubben - This year the government has signed an agreement with the Ontario English Catholic Association. This board does not have an agreement with its teachers. The teachers have an agreement with the government. The board is not pleased with this turn of events. Our teachers are providing the extracurricular activities.
- Everyone in our schools and our board are working as usual. If the public secondary school teachers pull their extracurricular activities then that would have an impact on our schools extracurricular activities because it would affect who our schools could play.
- If no agreements are signed before December 31st then the government will impose agreements.
- Next year 3 PA days will be unpaid as determined by Minister.

7. Consolidation of St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School And St. Patrick's Catholic High School

**P. Wubben,
Director of Education**

- In 2008 the board approved an ARC and in the Spring 2009 recommended the closure of the school on East Street North, Sarnia. In November 2009 the board decided to close one of two secondary schools in Sarnia, to keep the site at Rapid Pkwy open and to name the school St. Patrick's Catholic High School provided that Ministry funding was forthcoming. In June 2011 we received 12 million to build on the Rapid Pkwy site.
- Consultation process began in the Spring 2012 and in order to meet the needs of the school it was decided that major renovations to the existing school would need to be done. Safety of students

and staff and programming would be compromised during the extensive renovations and new build.

- It was decided to move all staff and students to the East Street site as a site which will work as a temporary location. There are difficulties with this plan which have been and will continue to be acknowledged; these will be worked through.

8. Other Business

- February 4th School year calendar and any other items which the members would like to add. Please email any requests to Paul Wubben.

9. Ms. Rumble closed the meeting at 8:38 p.m. with a closing prayer.