

# MINUTES

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC INPUT  
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW  
GEORGIAN WEST ESSA BASE BORDEN SCHOOLS

Monday, May 17, 2010

---

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. in the gymnasium at Our Lady of Grace School, 24 Roth Street, Angus.

2. **OPENING PRAYER/REFLECTION**

The Opening Prayer "*Prayer for Catholic Education*" was led by Trustee Jim Canning.

**Remembrances for the Deceased:**

- The late **Ray Burgies**, father of Yvette Chiasson, chief custodian.
  - The late **Angelo Vian**, father of Nadia Bruni, teacher and father-in-law of Mike Bruni, teacher.
  - The late **John Brooks**, father-in-law of Bunty Brooks, principal and grandfather Carrie Brooks-Mclean, teacher.
  - The late **Louise Carson**, mother of Shareen and Dana, students.
  - The late **Joe Spataro**, cousin of Joanne Ponteiri, Lorna Spataro, and Anna Spataro, custodians.
  - The late **Hilda Templar**, aunt of Bill Annand, retired chief custodian.
  - The late **James Flood**, father-in-law of Jo-Anne Flood, manager of payroll and benefits.
  - The late **William Dempster**, uncle of Rita Golds, Education Assistant, Darlene Wickett, Julie O'Connell, and Joyanne Van Laarhoven, teachers, and brother-in-law of retired teacher Cheryl Van Laarhoven.
  - The late **Thomas Laffin**, brother of Donna Brunner, noon-hour supervisor, uncle of Anne Marie Brunner, custodian, and great-uncle of Lucas, student.
  - The late **Roy Price**, father of Vince Price, teacher and Laurie Burke, custodian.
  - The late **Terry Hardy**, father of Cathy Hardy-Cooper, teacher and grandfather of Casey and Kevin students.
  - The late **Leo Sheehan**, father of Pat Manson, former Superintendent and grandfather of Michelle Scott, teacher.
  - The late **Juanita Rainville**, mother of Erin Rainville teacher.
  - The late **John Hamelin**, father of Brent Hamelin, teacher.
-

- The late **Jean O'Reilly**, mother-in-law of Wendy O'Reilly, Education Assistant.
- The late **Paul Carruthers**, father-in-law of Donnalee Carruthers, Education Assistant, and Alannah Carruthers, tutor.
- The late **Kevin McKay**, 144<sup>th</sup> Canadian soldier to be killed in Afghanistan.

### 3. ROLL CALL

Michael O'Keefe, Director of Education, conducted the Roll Call for the Board of Trustees and confirmed quorum for the Meeting.

**Present:** **Jim Canning – Board Chair**, Clayton Ferguson, Theresa Pinder, Connie Positano, John Gris  (via teleconference), Rick Maloney

**Regrets:** Jacob Brodka, Justin Heran, Sergio Morales, and Diana Riffert

**Resource:** **Michael O'Keefe – Director of Education**, Peter Derochie, Jane Dillon-Leitch, Darren Schmidt, Kristin Dibble-Pechkovsky, and Jennifer Sharpe

**Recording:** Belinda Marcellus

### 4. AGENDA APPROVAL

*Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the Agenda.*

### 5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

### 6. OPENING REMARKS

#### 1) Welcome/Introductions

Chair, James Canning, welcomed all guests to the Special Board meeting which was scheduled to receive input from the public on the Pupil Accommodation Review process for the Georgian West Essa Base Borden area elementary schools. Chair Canning advised that the Board was pleased to see community members attending the meeting to express their interest in the Pupil Accommodation Review process. He noted that there have been a number of opportunities provided for input already, and that ongoing participation by the schools and their communities was encouraged. Trustees and staff present at the meeting were introduced by the Board Chair.

#### 2) Opening Remarks

Board Chair Jim Canning advised that the review began with the establishment of a Pupil Accommodation Committee (PAC) in June 2009 to make recommendations to the Board in response to enrolment and facility concerns at the area schools.

During the period from October 2009 to May 2010 four (4) public meetings and eight (8) PAC meetings were held with principal, teaching staff, non-teaching staff and parent representation from all five schools. Invitations for participation in the process were extended to members from the local parishes, business community and municipal government.

The Pupil Accommodation Committee created a School Information Profile, in compliance with the Ministry of Education guidelines, for each of the affected schools with considerations in the areas of: value to the student; value to the school board; value to the community; and value to the local economy.

The Committee presented their report to the Director of Education on March 3, 2010 with recommendations. This report was based on the review, discussion, input and comments compiled from the meetings. A staff report was submitted to the Board at their April 14, 2010 meeting. A follow-up staff report will be provided to the Board on May 26, 2010, which will consider the delegations heard at this Special Board meeting.

## 7. DELEGATIONS

- 1) Recommendation to Suspend Bylaw 11:02 – Delegations  
Board Procedural Bylaw 11:02 states that “the Chair will permit only three (3) delegations to present briefs at any one meeting of the Board.”

*Recommendation: That the Board suspend Board Procedural Bylaw 11:02, for Board Meeting #08 – May 17, 2010, to permit eight (8) delegations to present briefs.*

***Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for approval of the recommendation.***

- 2) Jeff Inglis – Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School  
As a parent of a grade two student, Mr. Inglis asked the Board to support a new school to replace the existing Our Lady of the Assumption School, in New Lowell, noting that it is the only Catholic school in Clearview Township.
- 3) Bryan McCann – Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School  
Bryan McCann and Nicolette Wismayer serve on the Parent Council and have children attending Our Lady of the Assumption School. They provided a history of the school which was built in 1961 with private Catholic family fundraising, on land donated by a local farm family. They submitted a copy of the resolution that was passed unanimously by Clearview Township Council at its meeting of May 3, 2010.
- 4) Tracy Pyne – Prince of Peace Catholic School

Tracy Pyne has two children attending Prince of Peace School, in Base Borden. She discussed the building lease, retrofit costs, and bussing.

- 5) **Tim Watters – Prince of Peace Catholic School**  
Tim Watters addressed daily bussing requirements at the current school and if the students were to move to Our Lady of Grace School, as well as transportation costs associated with activities available at venues that are currently within walking distance of Prince of Peace School.
- 6) **Karen Mason – Prince of Peace Catholic School**  
Karen Mason has two children attending Prince of Peace School and presented support for keeping Prince of Peace Catholic School open in Base Borden, from the perspective of a military parent.
- 7) **Idalyn Spina – Prince of Peace Catholic School**  
Idalyn Spina has one child attending, and two children who are future students of Prince of Peace School. She presented information regarding the 16 active schools located at Canadian Forces Bases/Wings across Canada.
- 8) **Beth Dugas – Prince of Peace Catholic School**  
Beth Dugas has a child currently attending Prince of Peace School. Beth presented how the needs and issues faced by children of military families are supported at Prince of Peace School. She also read a speech prepared by Kelsey, a current student of the school.
- 9) **Roger Dugas – Prince of Peace Catholic School**  
Roger Dugas presented a written submission from Edna Turcotte, who served on the Georgian West Pupil Accommodation Review committee, as the parish representative for St. Joseph's Chapel. Mr. Dugas then pointed out the various facilities on the Base that are within walking distance of the school which enhance learning, such as, the military museum; park; arena; and pool.

## **8. CLOSING REMARKS**

Chair, James Canning, thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting, and thanked the delegations for their input. There will be a follow-up report from staff at the May 26, 2010 Board meeting. This report will consider the delegations that were heard at this meeting. A copy of the follow-up staff report will be available on Tuesday, May 25, 2010. The Board will be making a decision on the accommodation options for the Georgian West Essa Base Borden area elementary schools at the Board meeting on June 23, 2010. There will be a PAC follow-up meeting on Thursday June 3, 2010, and more information will be forthcoming regarding that meeting.

Chair Canning expressed appreciation to Jennifer Robertson, principal and Gerry Danby, chief custodian, of Our Lady of Grace Catholic School, for their assistance in preparing for and hosting the Board meeting.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

*Consensus of the Board of Trustees was obtained for adjournment of the meeting at 8:40 p.m.*

**10. CLOSING PRAYER**

The Closing Prayer was led by Board Vice-Chair Clayton Ferguson.