



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

Accommodations Committee Tuesday, June 8, 2023 – 3:00 p.m. Boardroom / Microsoft Teams

Trustees:

Present: Dan Dignard (Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp, Carol Luciani Rick Petrella, Mark Watson

Senior Administration and Staff:

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Scott Keys (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer), Phil Wilson (Superintendent of Education), Lou Citino (Manager of Facility Services)

Guests:

Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Committee Chair Dignard.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance was noted as above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Accommodations Committee approves the Agenda of June 6, 2023.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest: Nil.

1.5 Approval of the Minutes:

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Accommodations Committee approves the Minutes of December 1, 2022.

Carried

1.6 Business Arising from the Minutes: Nil.

2. Staff Reports & Information Items:

2.1 2023-24 Capital Priorities

Scott Keys, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer advised that the purpose of the report was to provide trustees with proposed capital priorities, which will be submitted to the Ministry when the Capital Priorities Program is opened to applications.



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

Trustees questioned if capital priorities for the Cainsville area should be included in the Plan? Mr. Keys noted that the County of Brant is in the preliminary stages of planning the development in that area and have discussed this with Board staff. This area is on our radar to monitor.

Trustees also inquired if the Board has representation on the Best Start / Early Years / CMSM. Mr. Keys noted that he will follow-up with Barb Mitchell, the Board's Childcare and Early Years Coordinator to determine if the Board has representation. Mr. Keys also noted that Ms. Mitchell communicates requests for daycare services within the jurisdiction of the Board as she is in contact with the Board's service providers.

Trustee Luciani inquired about the location of the addition at St. Frances Cabrini School that will house childcare services. Mr. Keys will provide the information to Trustee Luciani.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Accommodation Committee recommends that the Committee of the Whole refers the 2023-24 Capital Priorities as identified in the report for submission in the 2023-24 Capital Priorities Program to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

Carried

2.2 EDC By-Law Review Update

Scott Keys, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer introduced Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. who provided an update on the Board's City of Brantford / County of Brant Education Development Charges (EDC) By-Law. Mr. Ammendolia outlined significant dates and legislative changes regarding the EDC:

- The Board's existing EDC was passed in October 2018.
- The Ministry of Education subsequently passed legislation to freeze EDC rates.
- The Board's EDC rate should have been increased to \$1,100, however, it was frozen at \$912 (the existing rate).
- The Ministry of Education then passed legislation to relax frozen EDC rates, however, the rates were capped at \$300 per year until school boards reached their maximum EDC rate.
- The Board's EDC rate was increased to \$1,408 and remains as the existing EDC rate.
- This current EDC by-law expires in October 2023.

Mr. Ammendolia will calculate a new EDC charge by analyzing enrollment projections, land rates, residential development sites, etc. A Background Study will be conducted so that a legislated Public Meeting can be held in September 2023 and a new Brantford / County of Brant EDC By-Law can be approved in October 2023.

Mr. Ammendolia also noted that in the Fall 2023, he will analyze enrollment projections, land rates, residential development, etc. to determine the need for an EDC in Haldimand County.



Trustees questioned if the Board was able to purchase land for school sites in anticipation of growth? Mr. Ammendolia noted that school boards can ask municipalities to allocate a parcel of land as a school site, however, they must exercise the option to purchase within ten years. The Board can purchase a site in the City of Brantford / County of Brant with monies derived from the EDC. However, the Board must apply for new school funding through the Ministry of Education if they wish to purchase a school site in Haldimand and Norfolk Counties. Mr. Keys commented that there are some exceptions to the EDC By-Law. He will provide trustees with a report regarding the exceptions in September.

2.3 Legislative Changes

Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. noted that Grants for Student Needs (GSN) changes have an impact on planning and accommodations. Bill 98, *Better Schools and Student Outcomes Act 2023, contemplates increased Ministerial authority over school property, which includes the imposition of new reporting obligations on the board to provide the Minister with information on the condition of school sites and property, and plans for its acquisition, sale, lease or other disposition. It also would grant new powers to the Minister to make regulations and directions over board decisions respecting property.*

Currently, if school boards wish to dispose / sell properties, they must offer the properties to prescribed government organizations / agencies. Bill 98 proposes to change the order of the prescribed government organizations / agencies so that the Ministry of Education is first on the list, giving them first right of refusal. Bill 98 also provides the Ministry with the power to change the regulation. For example, if a school board is selling a property, they must offer the property to the prescribed government organizations / agencies first. If one of these organizations / agencies would like to purchase the property, but the Board can sell the property privately and obtain a higher offer to purchase, the Minister can change the Regulation so the school board can offer the property to the private purchaser. The Regulation would also grant the Minister the power to force joint schools. Mr. Ammendolia noted that the Regulation has currently been deferred, however, he will continue to monitor the Bill's progress and update trustees accordingly.

2.4 Planning Services Website

Scott Keys, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer reviewed the new Planning Services pages on the Board's new website, i.e., student accommodation and dashboards, boundary reviews, pupil accommodation reviews, EDCs and capital projects.

3. Business of the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Accommodations Committee moves to an in-camera session.

Carried

4. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Carol Luciani

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Accommodations Committee approves the business of the In-Camera Session.

Carried



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

5. Future Meetings

Chair Dignard noted that the next Accommodations Committee Meeting will be scheduled at the Call of the Chair.

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Accommodations Committee adjourns the meeting of June 6, 2023.

Carried

Next Meeting: Call of the Chair.