

Minutes of the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board special meeting held on February 17, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (cafeteria).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JB".

**Present**

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Chair:                                | Jacques Bégin   |
| Trustees:                             | Shawn Fitzsimmons, Don Houle, Barb McCool, John Willemsen   |
| Director of Education:                | Anna Marie Bitonti  |
| Superintendent of Education:          | Joanne Bénard   |
| Superintendent of Business/Treasurer: | Grace Barnhardt   |
| Recording Secretary:                  | Joanne Bénard   |
| Senior Education Officials:           | Karen Fabbro-Cobb   |
| Chaplain:                             | Nil   |
| Student Trustee:                      | Nil   |
| Communications Officer:               | Nil   |
| Media:                                | Nil   |
| Other:                                | Dan Seguin - Principal - Sacred Heart School (SAC)<br>Dayna Burgess - Parent (SAC)<br>Loretta de Sousa - Parent (SAC)<br>Marcello Tignanelli - Principal - St. Joseph School (SJ)<br>Angie Jeanneault - Parent (SJ)<br>Francesca Fresco - Parent (SJ) |

**Absent (with regrets):** Judy Manitowabi, Frank O'Hagan  
Izzar Linares

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 A. M. Bitonti led the prayer and J. Bégin called the meeting to order.
- 1.2 Roll call was taken and all trustees were recorded present with the exception of: Judy Manitowabi, trustee; F. O'Hagan, trustee; and student trustee, Izzar Linares.

## **2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

### **2.1 Special meeting of February 17, 2009**

Res. NPS 13-09

Moved by trustees J. Willemsen and S. Fitzsimmons that the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board approve as presented the agenda of its special meeting of February 17, 2009.

CARRIED

## **3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

## **4. WELCOMING REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR**

J. Bégin, Chair, welcomed all in attendance and thanked the Accommodation Review Committee for their commitment and work through the accommodation review process.

## **5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OVERVIEW AND REVIEW OF ARC PROCESS**

An overview of the accommodation review process to date including timelines, the Director's Report to the Board and the ARC's Final Report and Recommendations, was provided by Anna Marie Bitonti, Joanne Bénard, and Grace Barnhardt through a PowerPoint presentation.

## **6. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS**

There were no formal public presentations.

Questions and comments were solicited from attendees as follows:

### **a) Fernanda Fresco - parent - St. Joseph School and CSAC Chair**

Fernanda Fresco thanked the Board for the open dialogue and the personal and professional integrity demonstrated by representatives of the Board throughout the accommodation review process. She expressed her gratitude in being invited to take part in the accommodation review and for the quality of Catholic education delivered to all children in our Catholic schools.

### **b) Don Houle, Trustee**

Don Houle suggested clarification be provided when the recommendation to build a new school is communicated to the school communities so that they understand that regardless of what site the new school is built on that this in fact implies that we

are closing the two schools as they currently exist.

Anna Marie Bitonti, Director of Education, indicated that the wording of the recommendation for the Boards final decision includes this clarification and that it would be used as a vehicle to communicate with the school communities.

c) Fernanda Fresco - parent - St. Joseph School and CSAC Chair

Fernanda Fresco commented on the astuteness of communicating to parents that change is coming and emphasized the importance of communicating the time lines and next steps once a final decision is made. She also highlighted the opportunity afforded by taking the necessary time to allow the two school communities to collaborate and partner in a variety of ways prior to the actual consolidation in order to begin to develop a new, unified school vision and culture.

d) Marcello Tignanelli, Principal, St. Joseph School

Marcello Tignanelli inquired about the distance of a potential new site from the West Ferris area that may have an impact for the grade 6 students that feed from St. Francis School to St. Joseph School for grade 7 and 8.

Anna Marie Bitonti responded by indicating that, in line with the ARC's recommendation, the new school would be built on either one of the two existing sites or on a new site within the boundaries of the two existing zones. Currently, the two sites are situated in close proximity to each other (less than 4 km). In addition, once a final decision is made, Stage III - the Implementation phase of the process - would begin, which will delve into more details about site location, and will further study the long-term enrolment implications for the new facility.

## 7. CLOSING REMARKS

Participants were invited to remain after the meeting for an informal gathering and conversation with staff and trustees.


## 8. ADJOURNMENT

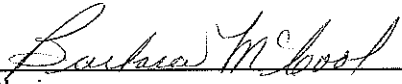
Res. NPS 14-09

Moved by trustees S. Fitzsimmons and J. Willemsen that the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board now adjourn its special meeting at 7:40 p.m.

CARRIED

Moved and adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2009

  
Secretary

  
Chair