



1325 California Avenue
Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6
CHAIRPERSON: Fulvio Valentinis
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Terry Lyons

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
VIRTUAL - Google Meet

[LiveStream link is located on the Board's website at:](https://www.wecdsb.on.ca/about/board_meetings)

https://www.wecdsb.on.ca/about/board_meetings

AGENDA

	Page
1. Call To Order	
2. Opening Prayer	
3. Land Acknowledgment	
4. Recording of Attendance	
5. Approval of Agenda	
6. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest - <u>Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.</u>	
7. Presentations: None	
8. Delegations: <i>By-Law 3:09: Any person(s) wishing to appear before the BOARD and speak to an item appearing on the agenda of the BOARD meeting has until noon the day before the BOARD meeting to make a request to the SECRETARY. They shall explain briefly the matter on which the presentation is to be made, the organization or interested parties to be represented, the identity, and if applicable, the authority of the spokesperson. A Delegation Form, located on the BOARD's website, must be completed and forward to the SECRETARY.</i>	
9. Action Items:	
a. Previous Meeting Minutes	
i) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021	1-8
ii) Minutes of the Special Regular Board Meeting of February 9, 2021	9-13
b. Items from the Special Committee of the Whole Board Meeting of February 16, 2021	--

10. Communications:
 - a. External (Associations, OCSTA, Ministry): None
 - b. Internal (Reports from Administration): None

11. Committee Reports:
 - a. Report: Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes of December 17, 2020 (E. Byrne) 14-18
 - b. Report: French Immersion Advisory Committee Minutes of November 26, 2020 (E. Bryne) 19-22
 - c. Report: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes of October 29, 2020 (E. Byrne) 23-25

12. Unfinished Business:

Trustee Bouchard's Notice of Motion:
 On behalf of the student trustees, at the next regular board meeting I shall move, or cause to be moved, that the Board investigate providing free menstrual hygiene products in designated washrooms in all WECDSB elementary and secondary schools.

13. New Business: *None*

14. Notice of Motion:

15. Remarks and Announcements:
 - a. Chairperson of the Board
 - b. Director of Education
 - c. Board Chaplain

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

17. Pending Items: *None*

18. Future Regular Board Meetings: *Unless stated otherwise, all meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre - 1325 California Avenue, Windsor beginning at 7:00 p.m.*
 - Tuesday, March 30, 2021
 - Tuesday, April 27, 2021
 - Tuesday, May 25, 2021
 - Tuesday, June 8, 2021
 - **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**

Committee of the Whole Board In-Camera Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm (closed sessions).

19. Adjourn to In-Camera meeting, if required:

20. Closing Prayer

21. Adjournment

Fulvio Valentinis
Chairperson of the Board

Terry Lyons
Director of Education & Secretary of the Board



1325 California Avenue
Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6
CHAIRPERSON: Fulvio Valentinis
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Terry Lyons

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
VIRTUAL - Google Meet

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT

Trustees: F. Alexander B. Mastromattei
K. Bouchard T. Polifroni
M. DiMenna L. Soulliere, *Vice-Chair*
F. DiTomasso F. Valentinis, *Chair*
M. Heath

J. Malott, Student Trustee
R. Oglan, Student Trustee

Regrets:

Administration: T. Lyons (Resource) S. Fields G. McKenzie
E. Byrne M. Farrand C. Norris
P. King J. Ibrahim J. Tawil
J. Ulicny R. Lo Faso

Board Chaplain: Rev. L. Brunet

Others:

1. Call To Order – Chair Valentinis called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Opening Prayer – Fr. Brunet opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. Land Acknowledgment

While it is a well-traveled land, we would like to respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather today is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples. We are grateful to work, learn and live in this area.

4. Recording of Attendance – All Trustees are present and participating electronically.
In accordance with amended O. Reg. 463/97 Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance all Trustees and the Director of Education participated electronically.
5. Approval of Agenda – No amendments to this evening’s agenda.

Moved by Trustee Mastromattei and seconded by Trustee Polifroni that the January 26, 2021 Regular Board meeting agenda be approved as distributed. Carried

6. Disclosure of Interest - Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act: None
7. Presentations: None
8. Delegations: None
9. Action Items:
 - a. Previous Meeting Minutes
 - i) Minutes of the Special Regular Board Meeting of January 12, 2021

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Heath that the Minutes of the Special Regular Board meeting of January 12, 2021 be adopted as distributed. Carried

- b. Items from the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting: None
10. Communications:
 - a. External (Associations, OCSTA, Ministry): None
 - b. Internal (Reports from Administration):
 - i) Verbal Report: Community Planning and Partnership Announcement

The Ministry of Education released Memorandum 2015: B9 Community Planning Partnerships Guideline on March 26, 2015. The main purpose of the memorandum and guideline is to encourage boards to work with community partners to share facilities for the benefit of boards, students and the community and to optimize the use of public assets owned by school boards.

The Board currently does not have surplus space which has been specifically declared for facility partnerships. However, the Board is willing to explore potential facility partnerships with any interested parties. Potential community partners wishing to discuss future partnership opportunities are welcome to contact the board’s Facilities Services Department or refer to the *Application of Interest for Community Facility Partnership* located on the board’s website.

In accordance with Board Policy B: 08 Community Planning and Partnerships, an information letter has been sent out to all applicable levels of municipal government, applicable District School Boards, applicable Public Health Boards, Local Health

Integration Networks and Children's Mental Health Centres explaining the Policy and inviting an exchange of planning data for informational purposes.

Moved by Trustee Mastromattei and seconded by Trustee DiTomasso that the Board receive the Community Planning and Partnership Announcement as information. Carried

ii) Report: Trustee Attendance September to December 2020

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the Board receive the report Trustee Attendance – September to December 2020 as information. Carried

iii) Report: 2019-20 Annual Report on Trustee Expenses

Moved by Trustee Bouchard and seconded by Trustee Heath that the Board receive the 2019-20 Annual Report on Trustee Expenses as information. Carried

iv) Report: Employee Purchasing Card Use 2019-20

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee DiTomasso that the Board receive the Employee Purchasing Card Use 2019-20 report as information. Carried

v) Report: 2020-21 First Interim Financial Variance Report

In the report before you this evening, the Board is forecasting an in-year deficit of \$4.3M at year-end.

The total expenses contributing to the deficit, are \$1.7M of post-retirement benefit costs that the board plans to fund from accumulated surplus as opposed to in-year revenues. This will result in an adjusted in-year deficit, by the Ministry's definition, of \$2.6M.

The variance report contains a forecast of both COVID-19 revenues and expenses for the 2020-21 fiscal year. The overall in-year deficit at \$4.3M is within the allowable limit of the deficit that the Board is allowed to incur, which is 2% of our operating allocation or \$4.8M. In a typical year, district school boards are only allowed a deficit equal to 1% of their operating allocation, but in 2020-21 only, the Ministry has allowed Boards to access 2% to deal with the pressures of COVID-19. Further explanations of the financial results are summarized in Appendix A.

An enrolment summary is provided in Appendix B, a staffing summary is provided in Appendix C and detailed schedules of revenues and expenses can be found in Appendices D and E. Detailed explanations of expenditure variances are also contained in the report.

These results are for the first quarter of the fiscal year. Administration plans to produce a second report in April based on actual six (6) month activity as of February 28th.

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee Mastromattei that the 2020-21 First Interim Financial Variance Report be received as information.
Carried

vi) Report: 2021-22 Budget Schedule

Moved by Trustee Polifroni and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the 2021-22 Budget Schedule be received as information. *Carried*

vii) Report: Director's Annual Report to the Community for 2020

Director Lyons provided the following statement:

As indicated in the report provided in the agenda package, the Director's Annual Report to the Community is an opportunity to reflect back over the last year and to highlight the ways in which we are living up to our mission, our vision and our strategic priorities.

*Naturally the content of this year's report was heavily influenced by the pandemic; but in keeping with our credo to focus on what we **can do**, despite the challenges associated COVID-19, rather than what we can't, many of the highlights emphasize how people right across our entire organization rose to the occasion to meet the needs of our students, our staff, our families and our community.*

What you cannot see in the report tonight is the beauty of the human spirit. The true measure of character is not during the calm weather but during the storms. Our entire organization has not only faced the storm but they have embraced it. The special acknowledgements where people went above and beyond to make others feel special. The drive-by celebrations, the curbside exchanges, the virtual ingenuity to share special moments, and the focus on our faith providing hope for the future. Despite the challenges this year, it was a time when our light shone brighter than ever before. Our employees and our organization made a difference and who could possibly ask for anything more.

Typically, we would post an Adobe pdf version of the report to the website, but for this year's report a new Adobe product was used to create a much more user friendly version. This version scales down nicely for tablets and mobile devices, providing easier access to the community.

The report will be posted to the board's website following this meeting and shared via social media. We encourage Trustees to share with their constituents.

Chair Valentinis commented on the statement "the light shone brighter than ever before" which truly reflects the Board, administration and staff meeting the needs

of our students and families. Chair Valentinis thanked Director Lyons and his team for the report.

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Mastromattei that the Director's Annual Report to the Community for 2020 be received as information. Carried

11. Committee Reports:

- a. Report: Parent Involvement Committee Executive Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2020

Moved by Trustee Heath and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board receive the Minutes of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Executive Meeting held on November 4, 2020 as information. Carried

- b. Report: Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes of November 26, 2020

Moved by Trustee DiMenna and seconded by Trustee DiTomasso that the Board receive the Minutes of the Thursday, November 26, 2020 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting as information. Carried

- c. Report: Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes of October 7, 2020

Moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Trustee Soulliere that the Board receive the Minutes of the October 7, 2020 Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee meeting as information. Carried

12. Unfinished Business: None

13. New Business: None

14. Notice of Motion:

Trustee Bouchard: The following notice of motion addresses an initiative suggested by student trustees regarding menstrual product accessibility in schools. Student trustees will provide further comments on this initiative during their remarks.

On behalf of the student trustees, at the next regular board meeting I shall move, or cause to be moved, that the Board investigate providing free menstrual hygiene products in designated washrooms in all WECDsB elementary and secondary schools.

15. Remarks and Announcements:

- a. Chairperson of the Board provided the following comments:

- Once again, thank you Director Lyons and senior administration for the Director's Annual report to the community. The report provided the foundation for the board's continued successes and validation of its accomplishments.
- Last week attended with Trustees Bouchard, Heath and Soulliere two (2) Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association seminars. The annual January seminar was

entitled *Forward in Faith and Unity*. The keynote address was Fr. James T. Mulligan, Author of *Renewing Faith: Revitalizing the School-Parish Relationship*. Several workshops were also offered to further refine trustees' knowledge as Board leaders. I can confidently state for Trustee Bouchard and Vice Chair Soulliere that the second seminar *Intensive Program in Human Rights for School Leaders Anti-Black Racism, and the Ontario Human Rights Code* was very well done and quite informative. Another session on Indigenous rights and legal issues is scheduled in February. I have participated in numerous seminars on anti-racism and this one was exceptional. Give credit to OCSTA for all the speakers involved including statements by students.

- Since we will not meet again until after Family Day, I wish trustees, administration and all staff an enjoyable, fun-filled day keeping in mind the family will not be extended as in the past in order to stay safe.

b. Director of Education Lyons provided the following comments:

Looking ahead....

Our virtual Middle School Open houses began tonight with Corpus Christi, and continue with Cardinal Carter tomorrow night and Assumption on Thursday night. This is a great way for students and their families to learn about how our middle school model helps Grade 7 and 8 students transition from elementary to high school. A list of where to access these virtual events can be found on the board's website.

JK Registration runs from February 16th to February 26th. Virtual Open Houses are scheduled at all elementary sites on Wednesday, February 17th. Families are able to register their child for Kindergarten using the board's online registration tool. Access is available through our Board's website. Families also have the option to request a printed registration package.

The third quadmester for all high school students begins February 3rd. For this upcoming quadmester we have established a new timetable which we believe will be better for student learning. This timetable will apply to all students except for those students with special needs in Cohort C, who will continue to follow their same schedule. Students will receive their Quadmester 3 schedule by February 1st. Please know that the Quad 3 schedule may change if secondary students need to pivot back to in school learning at a later date. We will keep you informed about any changes that many need to be made.

A reminder that tomorrow is Holocaust Remembrance Day when we recognize the millions of lives that were lost due to ignorance and hatred and reflect upon the ways we can work to ensure that this horrible chapter of history doesn't repeat itself. A number of our students will attend virtual presentations by Holocaust survivors and we will raise awareness about the day on our social media platforms.

February is Black History Month, which gives us the opportunity to learn from the past so that we can create a more socially just future. We are planning a number of initiatives, which include a partnership with the Amherstburg Freedom Museum to help create greater awareness about some of the local Black Canadians who helped shape the spiritual, cultural, social, educational, political, and economic landscape of Windsor-

Essex. Please visit our website and follow us on social media throughout the month of February to see how we intend to celebrate their accomplishments.

A reminder that Friday February 12 is a professional development day for elementary students and that Monday February 15 is Family Day. I hope that our students and staff and their families will be able to enjoy some quality time together.

- c. Board Chaplain Brunet commented the Holy Spirit works in wonderful ways. The Director's report mentions the *light shown brighter than ever before*, a theme also quoted by Amanda Gorman, a poet who read at the USA presidential inauguration: *There is always light if only brave enough to see it, if only brave enough to be it.*

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

Trustee Bouchard wished everyone a lovely family day.

Trustee Polifroni continues to pray for everyone's safety and a quick end to this pandemic. He also wished all a happy family day.

Student Trustee Malott provided the following remarks:

- With regards to Trustee Bouchard's notice of motion, Roman and myself are ecstatic to see that consideration is being given to our menstrual hygiene product initiative. We have had discussions with our student senate about this initiative which was unanimously supported in a vote. At the next regular board meeting, on the behalf of the student trustees, I look forward to sharing some of our findings with you in a presentation. Period poverty is not just a female issue, it is an equity issue, and it is a health issue.

Student Trustee Oglan provided the following student senate and high school events:

- With the February 8 Student Senate Faith Day approaching quickly, we are putting the finishing touches of the events in hopes to make the day as fun and normal as possible for the students despite our restrictions.
- Assumption has started a Wellness Wednesdays to address the importance of maintaining positive mental health amongst their school community and keep student morale high. Events include Google Meet sessions with student council members leading yoga, personal meditation, lunch break chats and other activities.
- Cardinal Carter is hosting a virtual talent show where students can showcase their COVID-19 hobbies and other skills such as singing, dancing and acting.
- St. Anne students are finding ways to honour frontline workers during the pandemic, such as making signs with inspiring messages to place outside of long-term care residences and hospitals. As well, the students are painting rocks with other positive messages to spread on their premises.

17. Pending Items: *None*

18. Future Regular Board Meetings: *Unless stated otherwise, all meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre - 1325 California Avenue, Windsor beginning at 7:00 p.m.*

- Tuesday, February 23, 2021
- Tuesday, March 30, 2021
- Tuesday, April 27, 2021
- Tuesday, May 25, 2021
- Tuesday, June 8, 2021
- **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**

Committee of the Whole Board In-Camera Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm (closed sessions).

19. Adjourn to In-Camera meeting, if required: Not Required
20. Closing Prayer – Fr. Brunet closed the meeting with a prayer.
21. Adjournment – There being no further business, the Regular Board meeting of January 26, 2021 adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Draft for Approval

Fulvio Valentinis
Chairperson of the Board

Terry Lyons
Director of Education & Secretary of the Board



WINDSOR-ESSEX CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

"Building communities of faith, hope and service"

1325 California Avenue
Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6
CHAIRPERSON: Fulvio Valentinis
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Terry Lyons

**SPECIAL
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Virtual: Google Meet**

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT

Trustees: F. Alexander B. Mastromattei
K. Bouchard T. Polifroni
M. DiMenna L. Soulliere, *Vice-Chair*
F. DiTomasso F. Valentinis, *Chair*
M. Heath

J. Malott, Student Trustee
R. Oglan, Student Trustee

Regrets:

Administration: T. Lyons (Resource) S. Fields G. McKenzie
E. Byrne M. Farrand C. Norris
P. King J. Ibrahim J. Tawil
J. Ulicny R. Lo Faso

Board Chaplain: Rev. L. Brunet

Others:

Recorder: B. Marshall

1. Call To Order – Chair Valentinis called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.
2. Opening Prayer – Fr. Brunet opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. Land Acknowledgment
While it is a well-traveled land, we would like to respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather today is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples. We are grateful to work, learn and live in this area.

4. Recording of Attendance – All Trustees present and participated electronically.
In accordance with amended O. Reg. 463/97 Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance, all Trustees and the Director of Education participated electronically.
5. Approval of Agenda – No amendments to the agenda this evening.

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Special Regular Board meeting agenda of February 9, 2021 be accepted as distributed. Carried

6. Disclosure of Interest - Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act: None
7. Presentations: None
8. Delegations: None
9. Action Items:
 - a. Previous Meeting Minutes: None
 - b. Items from the Committee of the Whole Board In-Camera meeting of February 9, 2021

Vice Chair Soulliere reported that the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board convened a closed Committee of the Whole Board in-camera meeting on February 9, 2021 pursuant to the Education Act - Section 207, to consider specific personnel, pupil, labour relations, potential litigation and other matters permitted or required to be kept private and confidential under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

From the February 9, 2021 in-camera meeting:

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee Polifroni that the Board receive as information the discussion exempt from access under Pupil Matters, item 9a. Carried

Moved by Trustee Soulliere and seconded by Trustee DiMenna that the Board accept Terry Lyons, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, letter of retirement effective July 31, 2021. Carried

10. Communications:
 - a. External (Associations, OCSTA, Ministry): None
 - b. Internal (Reports from Administration): None
11. Committee Reports: None
12. Unfinished Business: None
13. New Business: None
14. Notice of Motion: None

15. Remarks and Announcements:

a. Chairperson of the Board provided the following comments:

This has been interesting week to say the least. Our students are back to school and certainly, from all the comments I received from staff, students and parents they are glad to be back in an actual school environment.

Let me begin by saying that Terry is an exceptional leader and a great mentor who knows what it takes to build a great team. His strong moral compass defines him and his faith guides him. Every decision Terry has made throughout his entire career has been in the best interest of students and their families.

We are grateful for Terry's leadership, his ability to successfully meet challenges and his passion for Catholic education. In collaboration with the Board of Trustees, Terry has placed this organization in a very strong position as we move forward. Director Lyons, thank you for your incredible contributions; you have been and are a true champion of Catholic education.

In the coming weeks the Board will roll out the selection process for a new Director of Education but tonight please join me in congratulating Director Lyons for his years of service and continued success in your retirement. Thank you

b. Director of Education Lyons provided the following comments:

Thank you Mr. Chair. It has been a privilege and an honour to serve the board as Director of Education. I leave knowing that the people in this organization not only believe in our vision of building communities of faith, hope and service but they embody it.

I personally thank trustees for their support over the years and the willingness to trust. A lot of people talk about the word trust but most do not follow through on what it truly means. Trustees you have certainly done that; putting your trust in me and in this senior team.

To the senior administration team and our system principals and vice principals, you are the backbone of this organization and every compliment is a reflection of our system effort. You have risen to every challenge and have never put your personal needs before the needs of this organization. You are the epitome of the true professional.

To our staff, none of this works without each one of you. No one person is more or less important than the other. It doesn't work if we don't have the best version of you every day.

To the parents, students and community partners, rest easy, this organization will always work hard to be the best it can be in all facets.

God bless everyone and thank you for allowing me to be your Director because it has been an honour and a privilege.

Chair Valentinis provided further comments:

I used to wonder how a person becomes a president or CEO of a corporation that is totally unrelated to their background. Then I read, years ago, that the most successful leaders are experts in human engineering, in other words, their ability to have those that report to them

rise to their upmost skill. The best leaders have that ability. I can say Terry, your time with us and time as the Director you have done exactly that. You supported, encouraged and inspired each employee of this board to reach their full potential; that is a true mark of leadership. For that we are thankful and we, the Board, are blessed to have been the recipients of your talents and we are that much stronger for your leadership during this past few years.

c. Board Chaplain Brunet will provide comments to Director Lyons at a future Board meeting.

16. Remarks/Questions by Trustees

Trustee Alexander wished Director Lyons the best of luck in the future.

Trustee Bouchard will provide comments to Director Lyons at a future Board meeting.

Trustee Mastromattei accepts Director Lyons' retirement notice with regret. He is a true gentleman. Mr. Mastromattei will have further comments at a future board meeting.

Trustee Polifroni wished Director Lyons all the best in his retirement and pray that his future endeavours bears much fruit.

He would like to also pray for Fr. Maurice Restivo, a friend and parish priest, that he is able to overcome his sickness and is back to normal as soon as possible. Many prayers for those who have lost loves ones or experienced sickness due to COVID-19. The Lord will be with them, guide and love them.

Trustee Heath congratulated Director Lyons on his retirement. Thank you for all you have done for this board, parents, students and of course Trustees. God bless you.

Trustee DiMenna will provide comments to Director Lyons at a future Board meeting.

Trustee DiTomasso wished Director Lyons much enjoyment on his retirement, it is a great pleasure working with you. You did a fabulous job. Thank you very much.

Vice Chair Soulliere will provide comments to Director Lyons at a future Board meeting.

Student Trustee Malott wished Director Lyons a happy retirement.

Student Trustee Oglan will provide comments to Director Lyons at a future Board meeting.

17. Pending Items: *None*

18. Future Regular Board Meetings: *Unless stated otherwise, all meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Windsor Essex Catholic Education Centre - 1325 California Avenue, Windsor beginning at 7:00 p.m.*

- Tuesday, February 23, 2021
- Tuesday, March 30, 2021
- Tuesday, April 27, 2021

- Tuesday, May 25, 2021
- Tuesday, June 8, 2021
- Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Committee of the Whole Board In-Camera Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm (closed sessions).

19. Adjourn to In-Camera meeting, if required: Not Required
20. Closing Prayer – Fr. Brunet closed the meeting with a prayer.
21. Adjournment – There being no further business, the Special Regular Board meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Draft for Approval

Fulvio Valentinis
Chairperson of the Board

Terry Lyons
Director of Education-Secretary of the Board



1325 California Avenue
Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6
CHAIRPERSON: Fulvio Valentinis
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Terry Lyons

Meeting Date:
February 23, 2021

BOARD REPORT

Public **In-Camera**

PRESENTED FOR: Information Approval

PRESENTED BY: Special Education Advisory Committee – Trustee Members

SUBMITTED BY: Terry Lyons, Director of Education
Emelda Byrne, Associate Director of Education -
Student Achievement K-12

SUBJECT: **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)
Meeting of December 17, 2020**

RECOMMENDATION:

**That the Board receive the Minutes of the Thursday, December 17, 2020
Special Education Advisory Committee meeting as information.**

SYNOPSIS:

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is an advisory committee mandated through the Education Act as a standing committee of each school board. All minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee are to be received by the Board.

BACKGROUND COMMENTS:

The Special Education Advisory Committee reports to the school board and makes recommendations to the board regarding special education programs and services. Regulation 464/97 sets out requirements for school boards with respect to Special Education Advisory Committees and outlines their role, membership, and scope of activities. The regulation requires SEACs to meet at least ten times in each school year.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

TIMELINES:

The December 17, 2020 SEAC minutes were approved at the January 21, 2021 meeting. The next SEAC meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2021.

APPENDICES:

- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes of Thursday, December 17, 2020.

REPORT REVIEWED BY:

- EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:
- EXECUTIVE SUPERINTENDENT:
- DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:

Review Date: January 26, 2021

Approval Date: January 26, 2021

Approval Date: January 26, 2021



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

1325 California Ave., Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6

Phone: (519) 253-2481 Fax: (519) 253-0620

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Thursday December 17, 2020 TIME: 6:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL: GoogleMeet

[SEAC Google Meet Dec 17, 2020 6:00pm](#)

Trustees

Lisa Soulliere – Trustee Member

Mary DiMenna – Trustee Member

Administration

Joseph Ibrahim – Superintendent of Education K-12

Principals' Association

John Riberdy

Ministry of Education & Training

Joy Antoniuk – Education Officer

Association Representatives

Melanie Allen – VIEWS

Jillian Fenech, Chair – Autism Ontario Windsor-Essex

Joanna Zeiter – Easter Seals

Colleen Switzer – Community Living Essex County / Windsor

Anne Marie Domsic – Learning Disabilities Association

Sarah Stanton – Up About Down (Windsor-Essex Down Syndrome Association)

RoseMarie Lamug, Vice Chair – Integration Action For Inclusion in Education and Community (Ontario)

MINUTES

1. Call to order and Opening Prayer: **Meeting opened at 6:04 pm**
2. Welcome/Introductions
Welcome to Melissa Farrand who will be overseeing the Special Education portfolio beginning January 4, 2021.
Welcome to Diane Tope-Ryan, Senior Program Specialist
3. Recording of Attendance
Present: Vice Chair RoseMarie Lamug; Trustee Lisa Soulliere; Trustee Mary DiMenna; Superintendent of Education Joseph Ibrahim; Principal John Riberdy; Melanie Allen; Anne Marie Domsic; Sarah Stanton
Regrets: Chair Jillian Fenech; Joanna Zeiter; Colleen Switzer
4. Approval of Agenda
Moved by Mary DiMenna and seconded by Anne Marie Domsic that the December 17, 2020 SEAC Meeting Agenda be approved as distributed. Carried.
5. Presentation: After School Skills Development Program by Diane Tope-Ryan
Moved by Melanie Allen and seconded by Lisa Soulliere that the After School Skills Development Program Presentation be accepted as information. Carried.
6. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest - none
7. Approval of November 26, 2020 Minutes
Amendments required:

Motion by Melanie Allen and seconded by Anne Marie Domsic that Special Education Coordinator, Angela Staley's Presentation on November 26, 2020 be accepted as information. Carried.

Corrected spelling of RoseMarie Lamug's name in the motion on item #12

Moved by Melanie Allen and seconded by Mary DiMenna that the November 26, 2020 SEAC Meeting Minutes be approved with the above noted amendments. Carried.

8. Business Arising - none

9. Information Items - none

10. Report from Chair - none

11. Report from Trustees

Trustee DiMenna reported the highlights of the December 1, 2020 and December 8, 2020 Board Meetings.

Moved by Melanie Allen and seconded by Sarah Stanton that the Trustee Report be accepted as information. Carried.

12. Report from Superintendent of Education

With the announcement of the closure of schools to students from Dec 14 to 18 All schools were prepared for the pivot to virtual learning. Technology was sent home with students and for our students with special education needs, schools reached out to families to determine how best to continue to support in a virtual learning mode. We recognize the uniqueness of each child and that the challenge with virtual learning is different for each family. A large and expanding library of virtual activities supporting numeracy, literacy and other subject areas and topics are available to teachers and are being used to support virtual learning.

Ongoing training and support will continue to be available in all modes. Parents are encouraged to speak to their principal to discuss concerns.

As 2020, a year like no other, comes to a close I want to thank all of our principals and staff for their dedicated service to our students with special education needs. I would also like to thank our parents and students for choosing Catholic education and trusting and working with us to provide the best possible educational experience. It has been a pleasure working with SEAC over the last few years. Our commitment to inclusion and providing the best possible education to all of our students remains a priority. I want to thank you for your continued support, collaboration and feedback. I look forward to continuing to work in another capacity in service to our Catholic Education Community.

Merry Christmas and may God bless you in the New Year.

Moved by Anne Marie Domsic and seconded by Lisa Soulliere that the Superintendent's Report be accepted as information. Carried.

13. New Business - none

14. Association Reports

VIEWES

The Braille Challenge is happening in Ontario again this year!
Registration Deadline: January 15, 2021

[The Braille Challenge](#) is a national program of the Braille Institute and is the only academic competition of its kind in North America for students (grades 1-12) who are blind or partially sighted! This annual competition invites students to compete in Braille Challenge events throughout the United States and Canada. Contestants are divided into five age/grade levels and are tested on fundamental braille skills. Learn more about The Braille Challenge in this short [YouTube video!](#)

Ontario Regional Braille Challenge

From **March 1-10, 2021** a variety of virtual and in-person testing options for students across Ontario will be supported.

Save The Date: March 21, 2021

We are hosting an exciting virtual celebration of braille literacy and everyone is invited! If you love braille, know someone who does, or are braille curious, you will want to join us for fun foundational braille activities!

Autism Ontario - Many online activities continue to be offered to parents. Presented by RoseMarie Lamug.

Easter Seals - no report

Community Living Essex County/Windsor - no report

LDAWE - no report

Up About Down - door prizes that were collected for an event that had to be cancelled because of COVID were given away as a Christmas draw

IAIEC - work continues to ensure that all students are included/addressed under Bill 12

Moved by Melanie Allen and seconded by Mary DiMenna that the Association Reports be accepted as information. Carried.

15. Closing Prayer

16. Adjournment: **Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm**



Meeting Date:
February 23, 2021

BOARD REPORT

Public **In-Camera**

PRESENTED FOR: Information Approval

PRESENTED BY: Senior Administration

SUBMITTED BY: Terry Lyons, Director of Education
Emelda Byrne, Associate Director of Education,
Student Achievement K-12

SUBJECT: **FRENCH IMMERSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FIAC)
- MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2020 MEETING**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board receive the Minutes of the November 26, 2020 French Immersion Advisory Committee meeting as information

SYNOPSIS:

In accordance with Board By-Laws, *Section 5:00 Committee Reports*, the French Immersion Advisory Committee (FIAC) is submitting to the Board, for information, the Minutes of its November 26, 2020 meeting.

BACKGROUND COMMENTS:

The French Immersion Advisory Committee came into existence as a result of a recommendation made at a Special Board meeting on February 3, 2009. The role of the French Immersion Advisory Committee is to promote and support the system-wide French Immersion program, exchange information and points of view about the French immersion program and provide advise, recommendations and feedback to the Board on French Immersion.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

TIMELINES:

Minutes of the February 10, 2021 FIAC meeting will be received by the Board of Trustees following the Committee's approval at its next meeting.

APPENDICES:

- French Immersion Advisory Committee Minutes of November 26, 2020

REPORT REVIEWED BY:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:	Review Date:	February 16, 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EXECUTIVE SUPERINTENDENT:	Approval Date:	February 16, 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:	Approval Date:	February 16, 2021



FRENCH IMMERSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FIAC)

Thursday, November 26, 2020 6:00 p.m.

Virtual Google Meet

Minutes

Trustee, Bernie Mastromattei

Trustee, Mary Heath

Executive Superintendent of Education, Emelda Byrne

Modern Language Consultant, Julie Poisson

School Representatives: Principal / Vice-Principal / Teacher / Parent

Cardinal Carter MS: Nancy Sarkis, Ruth Paesano, Cassandra Marujo

Christ the King FI: Laura Mills, Andrew Di Pietro, Ashley Hebert

St. André FI: Laura Guglietta, Veronica Cipparrone

St. Anne FI: Michael Cusinato, Paolo Scalzo, Rony Samia, Shannon Porcellini

St. John the Baptist: Kevin Bellaire, Sarah Villella, Andrea Greff

St. Joseph: Linda DiPasquale, Julia Plourde, Elise Hubley

St. Louis: Jackie O'Bright, Christine Di Gesu Kim Williams

St. Mary FI: Marta Marazita, Elisa Meo, Jeff Stratichuk

Cardinal Carter SS: Nancy Sarkis, Genevieve Cano, Michael Jraiche, Ida Ricci-Minaudo

Holy Names HS: Pat Hickson, Allison Cadarette

St. Joseph's HS: Dave LaBute, Anna Tomaselli, Rose Lamug

St. Anne SS: Kyle Cowan, Kim Koekstat, Lisa Lanoue

Villanova SS: Amy Facchineri, Tony Palermo

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Trustee, Bernie Mastromattei
2. **Opening Prayer:** St. John the Baptist Grades 5 / 6 students
3. **Recording of Attendance Regrets:** Amy Lo Faso, Analisa Piazza, Chris Lanoue, Joal McMahon, Kate Fisher, Katie Cada, Laura Beltran, Natalie Cormier, Sonia Kobraosli
4. **Approval of Agenda:** motion by Elizabeth Hubley to approve the November 26, 2020 agenda; second by Genevieve Cano. Carried
5. **Approval of Minutes:** motion by Marta Marazita to approve the November 20, 2019 minutes; second by Jacqueline O'Bright. Carried
6. **Report from Executive Superintendent, Emelda Byrne:**
 - a. Eight (8) Elementary – four (4) dual and four (4) single track
 - b. Five (5) secondary schools offer FI including the new addition of Holy Names HS
 - c. Holy Names HS – good news – starting Grade 9 FI – 17 students enrolled
 - d. FI at St. Isidore Virtual School = 310 students
 - e. JK/SK – lower enrolment due to families keeping their children home during the pandemic
 - f. FI Audit 2019-2020
 - g. Next steps: 1) Marketing FI across the Board 2) FI staffing (retaining and recruiting)
 - g. FI & FSL – working diligently to have the most qualified staff in front of our students
7. **Report from Consultant, Julie Poisson:**
 - a. OLE (Ontario Languages in Education) Ministry funded grant was received this year to support second language programs. So far, resources were purchased for literacy-reading assessment tools, guided reading, and independent reading.
 - b. WECDSB received funding for FSL Labour Retention and Recruitment Project
 - i. The focus of this grant is on teacher retention - we have 10 (5 elementary and 5 secondary) teachers participating and exploring professional language associations including: ACPI (l'Association canadienne des professeurs de l'immersion), OMLTA (Ontario Modern Language Teachers Association), and CASLT (Canadian Association for second language teachers). Each teacher will receive a one year membership to each of these associations and learn about the support and resources available.
 - c. Under the New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) – new FI teachers are participating in PD sessions. Michelle Bezaire and Diana Furlong, our two centrally assigned FSL teachers and myself, continue to support new teachers weekly
 - d. New teachers have been added to the French Immersion Google community where Immersion teachers share ideas and resources

- e. Virtual Immersion teachers have also received PD in-school and virtually
 - f. Six elementary teachers are involved in AIM training (Accelerative Integrated Methodology) which is a learning approach that is achieved through scaffolding techniques that use storytelling, gestures, repetition, song, drama and dance, and the use of high-frequency vocabulary in French
 - g. Upcoming PD sessions - Literacy – a focus on writing in Immersion in primary, junior and intermediate divisions
 - h. From a teacher recruitment perspective, 10 Faculty of Education students wrote a French proficiency test in November
 - i. Resources available for parents, students, and teachers through the Ministry of Education:
<https://www.ontario.ca/fr/page/apprendre-la-maison-de-la-4e-la-6e-annee> and
<https://numerico.cforp.ca/magazines>
8. **Highlights from Group Discussion – Topic Secondary Open Houses – Grades 8-9**
- a. Informed new parents that under normal circumstances the FIAC meetings have breakout groups, but the format is different due to the Virtual Google Meet.
 - i. Holy Names HS – Principal, Pat Hickson / Modern Language DH, Allison Cadarette
 - 1. FI Open House – December 10, 2020
 - 2. Grade 9 French courses include the Career Civics
 - 3. Collaboration with the Modern Language DH at St. Anne SS and Consultant, Julie Poisson in supporting resources
 - ii. St. Thomas of Villanova SS – Principal, Amy Facchineri / Modern Language DH, Tony Palermo
 - 1. FI Open House – November 25, 2020
 - 2. Included videos/comments from current staff/students and former students – 50 attendees
 - iii. St. Anne SS – Principal, Amy Lo Faso / Vice Principal, Kyle Cowan / Modern Language DH, Kim Koekstat
 - 1. FI Open House – December 9, 2020
 - 2. St. André FI is a natural feeder school and will grow in numbers at St. Anne SS as St. André FI increases its student count
 - 3. After the St. Anne SS open house takes place, parents will be directed to visit the school’s website for more information on FI
 - 4. 36 grade 9 FI students
 - iv. St. Joseph’s SS – Principal, Dave LaBute / Modern Language DH, Anna Tomaselli
 - 1. FI Open House – December 14, 2020
 - 2. Focus on credit accumulation in FI
 - 3. Open house will include videos and information
 - v. Cardinal Carter SS – Principal, Nancy Sarkis / Vice Principal, Genevieve Cano / Modern Language DH, Michael Jraiche
 - 1. FI Open House – December 9, 2020 – CCSS views the FI program as a grade 7 to 12 model
 - 2. Most St. Louis FI students attend CCMS and also attract Saint Michel students
 - 3. In 2016 there were 19 FI students (grade 12) – now 37 students currently enrolled
 - 4. Close to 20% of the school population is FI due to the efforts of the FI team
 - 5. FI offered in MYP and DP programs
 - 6. IB promotes the learning of a second language
 - 7. Congratulations to Genevieve Cano on her January 2021 retirement from Nancy Sarkis, Bernie Mastromattei and others
 - vi. Trustee, Bernie Mastromattei and Trustee, Mary Heath – thank you to everyone for their hard work
 - b. FSL Teachers, Diana Furlong and Michelle Bezaire – Virtual Elementary School Comments
 - i. Transition to virtual was seamless due to the Google platform and its many features; poll questions, break-out rooms, reports generated from students’ answers
 - ii. Acknowledgements to the WECDSB tech team – teachers and students all felt supported
 - c. Parent Comments / Questions
 - i. St. Anne FI, Parent, Shannon Porcellini
 - 1. Teachers have pivoted seamlessly and French is being maintained
 - 2. Question 1 Who completed the FI audit last year? Emelda Byrne = Price Waterhouse Cooper
 - 3. Question 2 Are the Holy Names HS FI students sourced from Christ the King or elsewhere? Pat Hickson = Christ the King / JK to 7 - at this time Holy Names HS is recruiting from the coterminous boards
 - 4. Boundary for St. André FI incorporates east Windsor and feeds into St. Joseph’s HS. St. André is JK to 7 – time to investigate transportation boundaries to either St. Joseph’s HS and/or St. Anne
 - 5. Executive Superintendent, Emelda Byrne will further investigate
9. **Next Meeting:** February 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
10. **Final Prayer and Adjournment:** Julie Poisson; 7:07 p.m.



**WINDSOR-ESSEX CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

1325 California Avenue
Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6
CHAIRPERSON: Fulvio Valentinis
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Terry Lyons

BOARD REPORT

Meeting Date:
February 23, 2021

Public **In-Camera**

PRESENTED FOR: Information Approval

PRESENTED BY: Senior Administration

SUBMITTED BY: Terry Lyons, Director of Education
Emelda Byrne, Associate Director of Education –
Student Achievement K-12

**SUBJECT: INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IEAC) -
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 29, 2020 MEETING**

RECOMMENDATION:
**That the Board receive the Minutes of the October 29, 2020 Indigenous
Education Advisory Committee meeting as information**

SYNOPSIS:
In accordance with the Ministry of Education, the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) is submitting to the Board for information, the Minutes of its October 29, 2020 meeting.

BACKGROUND COMMENTS:
The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee came into existence in the fall of 2017. The role of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee is to provide information, recommendations and feedback to the Board on Indigenous Education.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
N/A

TIMELINES:
IEAC approved the October 29, 2020 Minutes at their meeting held on February 10, 2021. Minutes of the February 10, 2021 meeting will be received by the Board following the Committee’s approval at its next meeting.

APPENDICES:
• Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes of October 29, 2020

REPORT REVIEWED BY:
 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: Review Date: February 16, 2021
 EXECUTIVE SUPERINTENDENT: Approval Date: February 16, 2021
 DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Approval Date: February 16, 2021



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

<https://meet.google.com/mda-afob-tdw?hs=122&authuser=0>

Lisa Soulliere, Trustee	Joshua Peltier, Can-Am Indian Friendship
Mary Heath, Trustee	Rosemary Lo Faso, Superintendent K-12
Melissa Cavallin, Vice-Principal	Daniela Koppeser, Consultant
Darlene Marshall, Indigenous Education Lead	Heather McAuley, Chair of PIC
Mary Duckworth, Chief, Caldwell First Nation	Donna Grayer, Michif Nation of Manitoba
Marija Byrne, Can-Am Indian Friendship Ctr.	Tina Jacobs, Can-Am Indian Friendship Ctr.
Eric Hill, Can-Am Urban Homes	
Kayla Murphy, Indigenous Learner Advisor, St. Clair College	
Ian Duckworth, Southern First Nations	
MaryAnn Bachmeier, Acting Executive Assistant, Recorder	

1. Call to Order

Trustee Lisa Soulliere called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.

Opening Prayer Trustee Lisa Soulliere opened the meeting with prayer.

Land Acknowledgment – Read by Consultant Daniela Koppeser

2. Recording of Attendance: Round table introductions. Regrets: Chief Mary Duckworth, Melissa Cavallin, Eric Hill, Tina Jacobs, Joshua Peltier

3. Approval of Minutes from Meeting December 4, 2019.

Motion by Heather McAuley, seconded by Donna Grayer that the Minutes of December 4, 2019 be approved. **Carried**

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Marija Byrne, seconded by Kayla Murphy that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

5. Disclosure of Interest - **None**

6. Report from Chair, Trustee Soulliere – None

7. Report from Superintendent Rosemary LoFaso

a) Policy Development

Policy and Procedures ST: 25 Voluntary Indigenous Self-Identification were updated on February 25th, 2020 and are posted on the Board website.

b) Superintendent LoFaso informed the committee of the October 28th information session for Senior Administration, Principals and Vice-Principals. The topics discussed during the session included: Indigenous Education – Road to Reconciliation and how Treaty Week is tied to education.

c) **Website**

Superintendent LoFaso deferred the discussion of the website to Indigenous Education Lead Darlene Marshall. The Indigenous Education website has been updated. The website includes information pertaining to the following: Land Acknowledgment, IEAC, language classes, curriculum, voluntary self-identification, useful links, newsletters and scholarships/bursaries for graduating students. Indigenous Education Lead Darlene Marshall asked members to review the website, particularly to identify the intended audience of the website. Further discussion regarding the website will focus on identifying intended audiences, such as family, students, educators or a combination of all three.

8. Report from Consultant Daniela Koppeser and Indigenous Education Lead Darlene Marshall
The annual REEL Canada Indigenous Film Festival will be providing livestream events in November and December. The feature films will be focusing on Black and Indigenous Anti-Racism. Sarain Fox will be hosting the event.

9. **Action Item**

Discussion of Board Action Plan

2019-2020 Board Action Plan

Indigenous Education Lead Darlene Marshall provided a handout of the 2019-2020 Action Plan. A fourth signature needs to be obtained before the final report can be signed and submitted to the Ministry of Education. Donna Grayer has volunteered as the fourth signee.

2020-2021 Planning Template

Indigenous Education Lead Darlene Marshall provided a handout of the 'new' 2020-2021 Planning Template. Consultant Daniella Koppeser and Indigenous Education Lead Darlene Marshall provided an overview.

10. New Business: None

11. Correspondence - None

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer – Trustee Lisa Soulliere – Meeting Adjourned at:
6:50pm