

BOARD MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

August/September 2018



Hamilton-Wentworth
Catholic District School Board
Believing, Achieving, Serving

Board proposes revisions to By-Laws & Regulations

Proposed revisions to the By-Laws and Regulations Manual were presented to the Board of Trustees for review at the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of August 28th. The By-Laws and Regulations are observed in all proceedings of Board and committee meetings, and are the established rules and regulations for the dispatch of business at all meetings. As articulated in By-Law 1.00, these By-Laws are liberally construed to secure the just and expeditious determination of issues that come before the Board and its committees.

Revisions of note include sub-section 2.02 (Trustees' Constant Endeavour) under Duties and Powers of Trustees, and the restructuring of the Standing Committees (By-Law 7.00) and Permanent Committees (By-Law 9.00) of the Board. The new provision under Trustee Duties would require trustees to promise their wholehearted commitment to Catholic education, and their faithful witness to Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Other By-Law revisions would increase the number of standing committees from two to three. These committees, composed only of Trustees as voting members, are designated as:

- (a) Religion, Family Life & Faith Formation;
- (b) Student Achievement and Well-Being;
- (c) Committee of the Whole.

Also proposed is a restructuring of the Permanent Committees of the Board (By-Law 9.00) from nine to six committees. These six committees would include:

- (a) By-Laws & Regulations Committee;
- (b) International Languages Elementary Program Committee;
- (c) Pastoral Care Services Advisory Committee;
- (d) Catholicity and Communications Committee;
- (e) Equal Opportunities & Indigenous Education Committee;
- (f) Policy Review Committee and Strategic Planning.

Sub-sections under By-Law 7.00 Standing Committees and 9.00 Permanent Committees outline the composition, terms of reference, and reporting and term for each of the committees.

The revisions will be brought to the Committee of the Whole for approval on October 2nd.

Blessed Sacrament undergoes summer renovations

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Elementary School underwent a two-phased renovation project this summer following the February 2018 decision to relocate the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Child Care Corporation Inc. (HWCCCC Inc.) to the east mountain school. HWCCCC Inc. will move into excess space on the second floor of the school identified through the annual Community Planning and Facility Partnership Initiative. Phase I of the project involved renovations to the first floor to accommodate displaced classrooms, while Phase II will ready the second floor space for HWCCCC Inc. Renovations included new windows, and electrical and mechanical systems.

Health & Safety training and processes focus on reducing accidents

An annual Health & Safety report, presented on August 28th, showed a slight increase in overall accidents, from 575 in 2016-2017 to 579 in 2017-2018. Violence and aggression accounted for 111 of reported accidents. Slips, trips and falls remain a high frequency accident. Concussions, documented under the “struck by” injury classification, were a new significant injury statistic in 2017-2018. Many of the concussions were caused by individuals being struck by balls in the playground. A supervision guideline was developed and will be implemented this year to reduce the number of incidents. Monthly site inspections, required under the Ontario Health & Safety Act, continue to identify potential health and safety health hazards. Site-based Joint Health & Safety Committees (JHSCs) continue to be in-serviced on hygiene hazards and controls, and accident investigation processes. Online training was also provided to staff in a number of H&S procedures, including WHMIS/GHS and Anaphylaxis.

Board updates Education Development Charge (EDC) By-Law

The HWCDSB will be adopting a new Education Development Charges (EDC) by-law once the current EDC by-law expires on August 29th. The EDC by-law allows the HWCDSB to collect development charges from residential and non-residential development to purchase land for growth-related needs. Education Development Charges are the sole source of revenue available to the Board to fund site acquisition/site development needs related to anticipated enrolment growth. The current by-law has a residential fee of \$885 per housing building permit and a fee of \$0.34 per square foot of gross floor area for non-residential development.