

BISHOP ALLEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting of September 30, 2008

In Attendance

Patrick Keyes	Mark Stadnyk	Ung Kilkenny	Andrew Kwiatkowski
Mary Keenan	John Grassby	Toni Wuebbolt	Colleen Tovey-Shackleton
Ann Andrachuk	Art Hileman	Venita Indewey	Pauline Berends
Ela Tkach	Krystyna Dix	Grace Meade	Bernadette Gilbertson
Valerie Devine	Enzo Capparelli	Danny Ranalli	Christine Kwiatkowski
Susanna Rodrigues	Denise Mucha	Lucie Jabour	Aoife Humphreys
Marie Couture	Chester Budziak	Michael Szul	Rebecca Forte
Richard LaChapelle	Jane Fleming	Richard Francki	Claudette Piscione
Joe McGrade	Sandra Figliomeni	Michael Parzei	Ulana Chabursky
Juri Chabursky	Franca D'Onofrio	Tony D'Onofrio	Julie Pignatari

Meeting opened with a prayer.

1. Introductions of all Board personnel present which included Trustee – Ann Andrachuk, Superintendent – Colleen Tovey-Shackleton, Principal – Richard LaChapelle, and Facility Superintendent – Richard Francki.

2. Mr. Francki updated us on the progress regarding the situation with the portables. To date, all portables have been vacated, a public presentation was held, all 20 portables will be replaced with brand new heated and air-conditioned units, and that the work will be completed for the second semester. The reason for replacing all portables instead of the just the infected units is to comply with zoning building codes and drainage. The other challenge that would need to be addressed is to avoid building on top of water and sewage easements located in the area of the portables and the track & field. Consultants have been engaged who will prepare the plans for the new portables.

Mr. Francki agreed to include parent and student participation in the portable design decisions before the consultants offers any options. The issue of school capacity was brought up and although there is an existing zoning code that only allows a maximum of 20 portables, the consultants will be asked to explore the possibility of additional portables.

Parents made various suggestions including usage of alternative spaces. Mr. Francki clarified the objective of this project is to get permits to be able to proceed without requiring public consultation or variances. This will enable us to meet our second semester goal.

3. Ms. Tovey-Shackleton was asked whether there will be a cap on enrolment especially for out of area students. The Board response was that there is no plan to put a cap on enrolment and they expect the pressure to continue over the next few years. The Board must provide programs for all students from across the area (both inside & out). The

Board is currently reviewing enrolment towards establishing new limits on feeder schools. She clarified that there are no other schools with lower enrolment that are getting a new building. There is a senior staff committee looking at re-structuring program offerings and enrolments at different schools.

4. Richard LaChapelle addressed safety concerns at the Markham St. School and has advised all the students to keep their valuable possessions under cover. He has requested the TTC to assign a ticket collector at the Markham St. entrance/exit in the afternoon.

5. Kilt Issue – parents present expressed their disagreement in banning the kilt from the school uniform and suggested to grandfather the policy which will allow only the grade 11 & 12's to wear it. Mr. Keyes commented that the way the kilts were being worn was at the level of disrepute. James Dempsey – student trustee questioned the way the ban was carried out in such that no consultation was done in accordance to Board policy. Art Hileman – CSAC chair explained that the principal brought the motion to remove the kilt from the school uniform forward at a CSAC meeting and the main reason was that both the staff and administration were spending a lot of time in policing and enforcing the uniform policy and CSAC unanimously voted to support the motion. It was then the school administration's decision to ban the kilt. The policy states that it must be worn no more than 4 inches above the knee.

6. Motion to accept the minutes of the May, 2008 CSAC meeting was moved by Bernadette Gilbertson and seconded by Lucie Jabour.

7. Art Hileman submitted the Chair's report for the school year 2007-2008. This was followed by a discussion on how to best communicate with the parents. One suggestion was to use the automated phone message.

8. Annual treasurer's report was submitted by the treasurer – Marie Couture.

9. FOBA report was submitted by Andrew Kwiatkowski – FOBA Chair. Activities from last year included the purchase of LCD projectors, lighting board for the drama department, Alumni project, Colours project and a video communication system. Plans for this school year includes requesting parents to identify corporate computer donations, used TV's and other equipment.

10. Principal's report included EQAO results. For the AP examinations 3 students from our school are among the top national scholars. Awards night will be awarding over 800 awards including the honour role.

11. Student council report was on Spirit Week, School dance (pirate theme), the Markham event, and kick-starting the Thanksgiving food drive. The dance was limited to 350 students with 15 extra guest passes. There was ticket scalping occurring which should be controlled if not completely stopped. Upcoming events include Senior semi-formal (masquerade theme) and Civvies day wherein funds collected will be used to compensate for other activities. There is an ongoing problem wherein a lot of students

(specially the older ones) are not paying the fees at the beginning of the year to wear civvies.-

12. CSAC nominations and elections took place. The following parents comprise the CSAC members for the school year 2008-2009:

Art Hileman – Chair
Marie Couture – Treasurer
Aoife Humphreys – Secretary
Bernadette Gilbertson
Anna Gilmour
Michael Parzei
Michael Wahbi – teacher rep

Andrew Kwiatkowski – Vice-Chair
Venita Indewey – Secretary
Chester Budziak
Krystyna Dix
Lucie Jabour
Nereen Bradley-White
Joe McGrade – student council rep