FROM THE BOARD
Ministry Supervision Team (The Board)

A MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BOARD HIGHLIGHTS AND DECISIONS

May 2009

Realign, Refocus and Reinvest:
Ensuring a Sustainable Future for the Toronto Catholic District School Board
The Supervision Team presented a report focusing on the highlights from the past year, including board-wide accomplishments, local achievements of staff and students, and the road ahead. The report includes sections on Strategic Renewal, Realigning Supports, Board Governance, Board Administration and Decision-Making, Refocusing Priorities, Declining Enrolment and the Multi-Year Budget Plan. The report in its entirety can be viewed on the Board’s website www.tcdsb.org (see Ministry Supervision Team (The Board) Reports).

Special Education Assessment Services
A report was presented to board regarding the identification and assessments that involve the formal measurements of intellectual functioning by Assessment and Programming Teachers and Psychologists to address Learning Disability (LD), Mild Intellectual Disability (MID) and the Gifted. Although tests of intelligence are psychometric instruments that are typically restricted for us by appropriately qualified psychology practitioners, the TCDSB has traditionally trained specialist teachers to administer the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC). Due to professional regulations, legal opinion and proposed changes in special education services, several concerns arise. As of September 2009 only psychology staff will administer the WISC; a diagnosis of LD will be required for LD identification and educational assessments other than the WISC will be implemented to screen for LD, MID and Gifted.

Budget Process to Include Impact of Initiatives
One of the objectives of the 2009-2010 budget process is to create a visible record of requested and approved changes to the school board’s budget. Changes to the budget will be made through the submission of an Impact Statement. This statement will encompass the relationship to the Mission Statement of the Board, financial impact and potential alternatives for the proposed initiative.

The complete report on the Focused Delivery Model Budget and accompanying powerpoint presentation are posted on the board’s website at www.tcdsb.org (see Budget and Finance).

Non-resident Visa Student Fees
For September 2009, the Board has approved an increase in the non-resident visa student fees as follows:
- For elementary students, an increase to $10,750 per year (from $10,500)
- For secondary students, the fee would remain at $12,000 per year
Should the Toronto District School Board increase or decrease fees for 2009-2010, TCDSB staff will re-evaluate and recommend new tuition fees.

Facilities Services Summer Work 2009
Director’s Council has been authorized to award tenders (contracts) for a number of urgent and essential projects as well as the contingency allowances normally considered by the Board, to facilitate timely implementation during the summer months. The Superintendent of Facilities Services will provide a written status and progress report on these projects to the Board in September 2009.

Temporary Accommodation
The Board’s current capital programme includes the construction of 16 additions and six (6) new schools. The scope of the construction projects, combined with the small sites at many of these locations and the large numbers of portables that exist on those sites will necessitate the temporary relocation of some, or all, students during construction. The Board has approved in principle these temporary relocations, pending final discussions with schools and communities.

Accommodation Review for St. Gerard Majella and St. Philip Neri
The Board has approved the recommendation to close St. Gerard Majella and St. Philip Neri Catholic Schools effective June 30, 2011. The two schools will be consolidated at one school site to be built at 36 Yvonne
Avenue. The existing sites at 35 Heavitree Avenue and 20 Beverley Hills Drive will be declared surplus to the needs of the Board effective June 30, 2011.

Staffing Proposal for Facilities Services
The capital and renewal departments are moving rapidly towards the commencement of construction of large portfolio projects requiring the addition of short-term additional staff. In addition, the Ministers of Education and Energy have announced funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy sources projects. These funding envelopes provide opportunities for the Board to refocus, realign and reinvest in a number of areas in order to improve the quality of educational facilities, and the services provided in support thereof. The Board has approved the hiring of up to six contract professional staff for up to a maximum of $645,000 per annum for a maximum of three years, to support the investment in capital and renewal programmes.

Trustee Relations to School Councils
The issue of trustee involvement in Catholic School Advisory Councils has been reviewed. A report presented to Board concludes that a trustee may not be a member of school council, and is permitted to speak at a meeting of the school council only if permitted to do so by the chair of the school council, or if otherwise permitted to do so by the procedural by-law (if any) of the school council.

Learning Disabilities Proposed Program Review Framework for K-8
TCDSB has established several placement options and programs to meet the needs of students identified with a Learning Disability (LD). Placement options include a regular class with indirect or resource support or a regular class with withdrawal assistance and a special education class with partial integration. The report presented to Board provides background on a range of services to support students identified with a Learning Disability at TCDSB and includes proposed elements of a program review for Kindergarten to Grade 8 within a framework of accountability and continuous improvement.

Appointment of Senior Staff
Mark Fenwick has been appointed as Superintendent of Strategic Renewal. Geoffrey Grant will take over as Superintendent of Area 8 Schools. Josephine Nespolo will resume her position as Superintendent for Area 5.

Board Applies for Infrastructure Grants
The Board is moving forward with applications for Provincial Infrastructure Grants to support the following projects:
- Field of Dreams Phase 1 at Father Henry Carr Catholic Secondary School
- Field replacement at Holy Angels Catholic School
- Field and Track replacement at Immaculate Conception Catholic School

Upcoming Meetings
- June 10, 2009
  Supervision Team (The Board) Delegation Meeting
- June 17, 2009
  Delegation Meeting Regarding Focused Delivery of Service Budget
- June 24, 2009
  Special Meeting of Supervision Team (The Board) Regarding Focused Delivery of Service Budget

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East, North York, ON

The Toronto Catholic District School Board educates more than 90,000 students from diverse cultures and language backgrounds in its 201 Catholic elementary and secondary schools and serves 474,876 Catholic school supporters across the City of Toronto.

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The Board took the view that, as a member of the Political Security Section of the Ministry of the Interior from 1991 to 1993, he had been aware that torture was a routine practice of that section, but he had not shown that he had made a serious effort to dissociate himself, or resign, from that section. If some of the members of the board of directors of the association or organization resign and the remaining members of the board are unable to regard themselves as constituting [...] The Tracker board allows for quick issue creation. You can create an issue directly in the sprint or place it in the backlog. You only need to specify an issue's name and type, as all the other fields can be filled in later. Create an issue on the board. Open the issue board. The issue will be placed on the board you've picked. To remove an issue from the board, clear the Boards field on the issue's page. Add issues to a sprint. Open the issue page. Click the title of the Sprint field in the Agile panel to the right. chairperson of the Board â€” Highest ranking member of a Board of Directors, who presides over its meetings and who is often the most powerful officer of a corporation. Bloomberg Financial Dictionary â€” Financial and business terms. Chair Of The Board - COB â€” The most powerful member on the board of directors who provides leadership to the firm's officers and executives. The chair of the board ensures that the firm's duties to shareholders are being fulfilled by acting as a link between the board andâ€¦ â€” Hold lectures on the fly from the comfort of your home, and save money on transportation, office and classroom rentals! Online whiteboard web application. Touch friendly. To pan your board left and right, you can press and hold the middle mouse button on the board and move the mouse around. While zooming in and out is done with the buttons on the zoom panel in the center bottom of the app as seen in the video! Board sharing. To initialize board sharing, click on the "Share" button.