MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2009

PRESENT: N. Hartmann, Chair
N.M. Forma
Margaret Gaus
Terry Pastore
Murielle Boudreau
Greg Rogers
James Dempsey
Robert Corcoran
Anna Schaefer
Alan Baker
Carl DeNicolais
Ann Perron
Angela Gauthier
Sandra Pessione

Apologies were received from Msgr. Ambrose Sheehy who was unable to attend the meeting.

1. WELCOME AND PRAYER

The Director of Education opened the meeting with a welcome and a prayer.

2. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry Supervisor asked that the members of the Committee introduce themselves and give their reasons and expectations for being part of the Committee.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with an amendment that **item 10. Discussion of Specific Concerns of Committee Members** be dealt with after **item 5. Terms of Reference**.

4. **OVERVIEW OF SUPERVISION PROCESS**

The Ministry Supervisor gave an overview of the Supervision Process with specific reference to the letter from the Ministry of Education dated June 4, 2008 and its implications for the Toronto Catholic District School Board. The Ministry Supervisor informed the Committee that the Board would be under Supervision until the budget is balanced or until such time as the Ministry of Education was confident that things have, or will in the near future, return to normal.

5. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Terms of Reference for the Community Advisory Committee outlining the role, purpose etc. of the Committee were reviewed and discussed.

10. **DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC CONCERNS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The Ministry Supervisor asked the members to present their concerns and the following are preliminary areas of what were identified:

i) Long term viability of the Toronto Catholic School Board due to demographics and political issues;

ii) Political issues regarding faith funded schools and potential backlash;

iii) Academic achievement should be a top priority;

iv) Catholicity in the Toronto Catholic District School Board should be reinforced and reiterated on an ongoing basis.

v) GSN funding allocation.

vi) How to make the TCDSB website more accessible.

vii) Communications – Getting our message out promptly and clearly to all stakeholders.
3.

viii) Student body (through the Student Trustee) do not have the same platform as prior to Supervision. Suggestion was made that the Ministry Supervisor could attend one of the CSLIT meetings and that the student voice has to be heard in a public forum.

ix) Role of Trustees and would the present trustees be able to regain public trust if they decide to run in the 2010 elections.

x) Concern about the issue of Conflict of Interest.

The Ministry Supervisor suggested that items 6) IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMMUNITY, 7) IMPROVING DECISION MAKING AND TRANSPARENCY, 8) ITEMS FOR BUILDING TRUST AND CONFIDENCE and 9) 2009-2010 BUDGET PROCESS be referred to a future meeting of the Committee.

In conclusion, the Ministry Supervisor summarized the following areas:

Regarding communications, we have to get our message out to all stakeholders in a clear and timely fashion.

The Ministry Supervisor explained the decision-making process under Supervision and stressed that it does not work in the same manner as when there is a Board of Trustees.

The meeting adjourned.

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SECRETARY                          CHAIR