



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
Achieving Success Together

**THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA**

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

June 27, 2011

6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Private Session)

7:30 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Kevin Maves (Chair), Sue Barnett, Alex Bradnam, Lora Campbell, Dalton Clark, Jonathan Fast, Ed Fulford, Cheryl Keddy-Scott, Barbara Ness, Dale Robinson, Dave Schaubel

Student Trustees: Student Trustees James Gillespie, Clive Velkers

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), John Dickson, Carol Germyn, Sue Greer, Cam Hathaway, Marilyn Hyatt, Jim Morgan, John Stainsby, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Peter Doan, Kim Yielding, Rick Werezak, Marian Lamb

Recording Secretary: Irene Foster

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Kevin Maves called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:45 p.m.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Sue Barnett

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole (Private Session).”

CARRIED

Moved by Sue Barnett

“That the Board do now return to open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:30 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as Elaine Epp, Human Resources Assistant, sang “O Canada.”

D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Sue Barnett opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Barbara Ness

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 14, 2011, be confirmed as submitted.”

CARRIED

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session)

Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session) was deferred to follow the business of the open meeting (Public Session).

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS

There was no educational showcasing or presentations.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**1. Summer H.E.A.T. (Helping Everyone Achieve Together)**

Superintendent Carol Germyn presented an update on the Summer H.E.A.T. program. Superintendent Germyn explained that the program is offered to students entering Kindergarten to Grade 3, in priority school neighbourhoods. Since the program was implemented two summers ago in two schools, the program has now expanded to eight schools throughout the region. The program focuses on socialization, basic literacy and nutrition through fun, activity based and meaningful learning experiences. This year's theme will be on the environment. Superintendent Germyn acknowledged the Ministry of Education through CODE, the Niagara Prosperity Initiative, community members, and staff for funding the program. The cost to families for the three week, half day program is \$80 per student. Subsidies are available to families on an as-needed basis.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended staff and volunteers for their commitment and dedication to students.

H. DELEGATIONS**1. Doug Rogers (for Gary E. Eden) 4Office**

On behalf of 4Office, Doug Rogers, addressed the Trustees regarding the Board's request for proposal process, specific to the digital photocopier replacement contract. Mr. Rogers presented information on the company's capabilities to meet the criteria set out in the Board's request for proposal. Mr. Rogers asked the Trustees to review the material prior to making a final decision on the photocopier replacement contract.

There were no questions of clarification asked by Trustees.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no Board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS**1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS**

Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Sue Barnett

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 0824 to 0831 for the month of May 2011, totaling \$15,366,192.25, be received.”

CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

Trustee Clark requested that the Budget issues be considered separate from the photocopier replacement contract.

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated June 15, 2011, be received; and

“That the use of up to \$1,442,708 of the Photocopier Replacement Accumulated Surplus be approved to fund the purchase and installation of the replacement multi function devices (photocopiers), subject to Ministry approval; and

“That a five-year contract be awarded to Beatties Basics, commencing June 30, 2011, including:

- **The purchase and installation of up to 219 new Canon multi-function devices at an approximate cost of \$1,442,708 (net of trade-in allowance) and,**
- **Maintenance for five years at the fixed rate specified in Beatties’ response to the Request for Proposal for the new Canon multi-function devices.”**

CARRIED

Trustee Dalton Clark reported on the recommended motion regarding the photocopier replacement contract. A brief discussion followed on whether this matter should be referred back to the Committee for further review. Director Hoshizaki confirmed for Trustees that the Board’s request for proposal process was followed in bringing this recommendation forward.

Trustee Clark added that the Finance Committee was also provided with a transportation update for pockets of Grades 7 and 8 St. Catharines students who are not currently transported by yellow school bus.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – continued:

**Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That the Interim Financial Report for the period ending March 31, 2011, be received.”

CARRIED

PRELIMINARY 2011-2012 BUDGET

**Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That \$442,348 be included in the 2011-12 budget to reinstate the central instructional computer allocation; and

That an additional 6.75 FTE elementary teachers, at an estimated cost of \$540,000, be included on a one time basis in the 2011-2012 Budget.”

CARRIED

Trustee Dalton Clark reported on the recommended motions.

**Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That the 2011-12 Revenue and Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$417,341,303 be approved, subject to Ministry of Education approval, and the estimate forms be submitted to the Ministry of Education.”

CARRIED

Trustee Clark presented a summary and highlights of the 2011-2012 Budget. Trustee Clark noted that the proposed Budget supports student achievement.

Trustee Fulford expressed a concern regarding the long term sustainability of the Board's accumulated surplus. Trustee Clark pointed out that the Board has been prudent in allocating funding from reserves and it is anticipated that monies will be reallocated into operating reserves in 2011-2012. Trustee Clark also expressed optimism that a realignment of Special Education funding across the province will benefit the Board.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves and Trustee Clark acknowledged and thanked the Financial Services staff, particularly Wayne McNally; Rick Werezak, Comptroller of Finance; Stacy Veld, Manager of Financial Services; and Brenda Buckingham, Assistant to the Superintendent of Business, for their work in bringing the Budget forward. Director Hoshizaki added his appreciation to Financial Services staff for assuming additional responsibilities throughout the Budget process.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

- (a) In response to Trustee Barnett's inquiry, Superintendent Stainsby reported that 125 students have registered to attend the DSNB Academy in September 2011. There will be two Grade 6 classes and three Grade 7 classes. Students and their families recently attended a welcome session hosted by Brock University and a similar event is planned for August, hosted by Niagara College. Families have expressed an interest in uniforms and they will be available in August, at their expense. The Communications Department will participate in developing a well planned opening in September where the focus will be on the students and their families.

L. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**1. Staff Reports****(a) Director's Report**

Director Hoshizaki highlighted the following:

- The Board's Communications and Public Relations Department has been recognized with six National School Public Relations Association of America awards. Kudos to our talented Communications Department staff on these achievements.
- Throughout this past year, staff and parents have worked to plan for the successful transition of Empire Public School students to Plymouth Public School in September 2011. Congratulations to everyone involved.
- The July 2011 issue of "*Today's Parent*" has published a good article on the DSNB Academy called "Rich School, Poor School."

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Information Session scheduled.

3. Correspondence and Correspondence**(a) Letter from Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake**

The Trustees agreed that a response will be sent to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on behalf of the Board thanking them for the information and declining their invitation to participate in the proposed initiative.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:**Correspondence and Correspondence**

- (b) Letter from Minister of Education regarding competitive procurement processes for student transportation

Director Hoshizaki explained for Trustee Campbell that representation on the proposed Task Force will likely be coordinated through the Ontario Public School Boards' Association. At Trustee Bradnam's request, Trustees will be provided with a copy of an article published recently in the Toronto Star regarding the impact the Ministry's procurement moratorium will have on small school bus companies.

- (c) Letter from Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration regarding school year 2011-2012 Adult Non-Credit Language Training Program Funding

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Trustee Sue Barnett commended Empire and Plymouth Public Schools for their joint participation in the recent Welland Rose Parade. Trustee Barnett commended Superintendent Greer and the two Principals for bringing the two communities together.
- (b) Trustee Sue Barnett noted the loss and fire damage at the former Welland High School site.
- (c) Trustee Sue Barnett issued a challenge to all schools and Trustees to participate in the "*Make Change for Kids*" initiative next school year.

5. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report

- (a) Summary of OPSBA Initiatives and Events

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott noted that OPSBA's Annual General Meeting will be held in Ottawa from July 7-9, 2011.

6. Future Meetings**Calendar of Meetings for August and September 2011**

There were no amendments to the calendar of meetings.

**Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole (Private Session).”

CARRIED

The Board returned to Committee of the Whole (Private Session) at 8:56 p.m.

Moved by Dalton Clark

“That the Board do now return to open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Ratification Of Business Conducted In Committee Of The Whole (Private Session)

**Moved by Dale Robinson
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

“That the business conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session) be now ratified by the Board.”

CARRIED

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Lora Campbell
Seconded by Alex Bradnam**

“That this meeting of the District School Board of Niagara be now adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

KEVIN MAVES, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer