



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

November 8, 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: Joelle Schonberg and Evan Vassallo (present for the Public Session)

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), John Dickson, Carol Germyn, Sue Greer, Cam Hathaway, Marilyn Hyatt, Sue Mark, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, John Stainsby, Joe Weinberg, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Peter Doan, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Marian Lamb

Recording Secretary: Irene Foster

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior and Wendy Coit

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 7:40 p.m.

Chair Maves introduced and welcomed Joe Weinberg, newly appointed Superintendent of Business Services.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Cheryl Keddy-Scott
Seconded by Dalton Clark

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

CARRIED

Moved by Alex Bradnam

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting (Public Session) at 7:28 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood and sang “O Canada” accompanied on tape by students from Maywood Public School, St. Catharines. The singing of “O Canada” was followed by a Remembrance Day video clip.

D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Jonathan Fast opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Barbara Ness

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 25, 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 of October 25, 2011.

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

Moved by Dale Robinson
Seconded by Sue Barnett

“That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.”

CARRIED

Chair Maves reported that in Committee of the Whole the Board accepted the retirement of Superintendent Carol Germyn, effective January 31, 2012. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended Superintendent Germyn for her service and dedication to students and the Board and wished her well in her future endeavours.

Director Hoshizaki commended Superintendent Germyn for her strong leadership skills as a member of the Senior team, for her integrity, strong values and work ethic, and for her reflective decision making.

Superintendent Germyn thanked the dedicated Trustees, colleagues and staff for their support and for the opportunity to serve students. Superintendent Germyn commended School Support Services on its outstanding leadership team.

F. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE TO BOARD

Director Hoshizaki highlighted the following:

- Mick Leane, DSBN Education Centre staff member, was recognized for being an outstanding and valued employee who embodies the Board's vision of *Achieving Success Together*. Director Hoshizaki added that Mick Leane is an exceptional man of integrity who goes over and above his job responsibilities, noting that he has the ability to relate to all people at all levels, which impacts positively on students, staff, and visitors to our office.
- Public Board Directors of Education will meet with School Board Chairs and Vice-Chairs on November 18 to review provincial issues in education.
- A Strategic Planning session will take place with the Minister of Education, Board Chairs and Vice-Chairs in January 2012.
- CNN recently reported on issues in education that are of global concern. Information on CNN's broadcast can be accessed at www.cnn.com

G. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**(a) Parent Involvement Committee**

Highlights from the 2011 Conference held at Eden High School on November 2, 2011

Superintendent Sue Mark introduced the presentation. Superintendent Mark commended the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) for its excellence in organizing the conference which has grown in attendance and reputation.

Diane Chase, PIC Chair, provided background on the role of the Parent Involvement Committee and she noted that a goal of the Committee this year is to increase school communications through a variety of communication initiatives. Diane Chase provided highlights and video clip testimonials of the well attended November 2nd Conference, which included a variety of informative workshops and vendor fairs. Diane Chase thanked the Board for its support of the Parent Involvement Committee and she noted that the Committee looks forward to continuing to develop partnerships to achieve success together. Information on the Board's Parent Involvement Committee is available at www.dsbn.org

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott commended the Committee for organizing a great conference.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the Committee members for their work. Chair Maves also commended the parents for attending the conference and for supporting their children's education.

H. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There were no student achievement reports.

I. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

J. BOARD RECESS

There was no Board recess.

K. OLD BUSINESS**1. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

**Moved by Joelle Schonberg
Seconded by Evan Vassallo**

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated October 26, 2011, be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustees Joelle Schonberg and Evan Vassallo reported on the issues that were discussed at the October 26, 2011, meeting. Student Trustee Vassallo added that the Student Trustee Senate endorsed support for the United Way Campaign. Student Trustee Joelle Schonberg reported on her attendance at the recent Ontario Student Trustees' Association Fall General Meeting. Student Trustee Schonberg added that the Association has released the results of its Ontario Student & Parent Survey. Over 7,100 students and 2,500 parents responded to ten questions on a range of issues. The Ontario Student & Parent Survey Report can be accessed on the Board's Student Trustee Senate website at www.dsbn.org or at the Association's website at www.osta-aeco.org/

Superintendent John Stainsby indicated for Trustee Fulford that at the secondary school level parents and staff are recognized for their involvement in extra-curricular activities in a variety of ways, including presenting them with plaques, thank you notes, specialty t-shirts, etc. Superintendent Greer added that in the elementary school panel parents and staff are also recognized at volunteer luncheons within the school, and with electronic recognition cards available through Human Resources. Superintendent Greer noted that staff participate in a variety of activities that support students in addition to their teaching responsibilities, such as assisting with Breakfast Clubs.

2. VERBAL REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Moved by Barbara Ness
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated November 8, 2011, be received; and

“That the recommendations outlined in the Educational Research Committee of October 24, 2011, be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustee Barbara Ness reported on the recommendations of the Educational Research Committee.

L. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions asked of and by Board members.

M. NEW BUSINESS**Ad Hoc Committee for Negotiations**

Interested Trustees were asked to submit their names to the Chair to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee for Negotiations for the upcoming 2012 negotiations.

N. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**1. Staff Reports**

There were no staff reports.

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee Information Session prior to the Board meeting.

3. Correspondence and Communications

There was no correspondence and communications.

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Trustee Sue Barnett gave a reminder of the Education Foundation of Niagara's Gala on November 26, 2011.
- (b) Trustee Sue Barnett reported that Ross Public School is hosting a "Rocking for Ross" fundraiser and barbeque in conjunction with Welland Centennial Secondary School on Saturday, November 19.
- (c) Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott reported that Lakeview Public School was chosen to participate in a recent virtual classroom led by David Suzuki together with schools from across the province.
- (d) Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott reported that she attended Grimsby Secondary School's recent commencement ceremonies. Trustee Keddy-Scott commended the organizers for presenting a wonderful event which recognized student success.
- (e) Trustee Dale Robinson commended Kelly McDonnell and her committee for organizing the recent successful STAT (Students Taking Action Today) Conference held at Welland Centennial Secondary School.

Trustee Communications and School Liaison

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

“That the report of the Central West Regional Council Meeting dated October 15, 2011, be received for information.”

CARRIED

6. Future Meetings

Revised Calendar of Meetings for November 2011

November 16 Finance Committee meeting, cancelled

O. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

KEVIN MAVES, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer