



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

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**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**February 14, 2012**

6:45 – 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 (arrived at 6:55 p.m.)

**Regrets:** Student Trustee Evan Vassallo

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

**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 7:30 p.m.

Chair Maves welcomed visitors who were in the gallery, including students from Niagara College's Broadcast Program.

**COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued:**

**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 Ed Fulford  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood and sang “O Canada” accompanied on video by students from E.L. Crossley Secondary School’s orchestra.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Dale Robinson  
Seconded by Barbara Ness

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:****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 January 24, 2012, be confirmed as submitted.”

**CARRIED**

**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)**

Moved by Dale Robinson  
Seconded Sue Barnett

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

**CARRIED**

**F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Lincoln Centennial Public School**

Superintendent Sue Mark introduced the showcase which recognized students and staff from Lincoln Centennial Public School for being winners of the recent Aviva Community Fund Competition in support of their “Give Our Lions a Place to Roar with Pride” playground project. Principal Baranoski and students and staff provided video highlights of their successful efforts. Principal Baranoski expressed the school’s appreciation to everyone for promoting the project and for their votes and support. Principal Baranoski also thanked community partners, including Sheehan and Rosie, the Rotary Club, and Tim Hortons, for their support.

Vice-Chair Robinson commended the students and staff for rallying community support and for their dedication to their school community.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****(b) Recognition of “East Side Athletic Club – Ladies Auxiliary” Volunteers from DeWitt Carter Public School**

Director Hoshizaki welcomed representatives from the DeWitt Carter Public School “East Side Athletic Club – Ladies Auxiliary” Volunteers, who were recognized for the Club’s service and dedication to students and the school for 63 years in a wide variety of roles.

Director Hoshizaki presented the ladies with a Certificate of Recognition for their outstanding service and contributions to the school and the community.

Trustees commended the ladies for their decades of service and dedication to students.

**(c) Endowment Gift – Winger and Steele Street Public Schools**

Director Hoshizaki reported that Winger and Steele Street Public Schools are recipients of an endowment fund of \$120,000 each which was bequeathed by former teacher Carol Ann Leppert in her Will. At Ms. Leppert’s bequest, the funds will be used to provide students at these schools with access to music or theatre programs. The funds will be channeled through the Education Foundation of Niagara.

**(d) Shaw Festival**

Director Hoshizaki reported on a new Theatre Arts initiative which is being funded by the Halo Foundation over the next five years. The initiative will enhance the Board’s existing partnership with the Shaw Festival and provide excellent learning experiences for students.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**

There were no Student Achievement Reports.

**H. DELEGATIONS**

There were no Delegations

**I. BOARD RECESS**

There was no Board recess.

**J. OLD BUSINESS****1. REPORT OF THE AD HOC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy-Scott  
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

**“That the report of the Ad Hoc Governance Committee dated January 24, 2012, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott reported that the Ad Hoc Governance Committee met to determine whether a Trustee Code of Conduct would be beneficial to the Board. Trustee Keddy-Scott added that OPSBA's Policy Development Team has been working on the development of a Trustee Code of Conduct and it is anticipated that a final draft will be available in the near future for review.

**2. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (SAL) COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam**

**“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee dated January 26, 2012, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Dave Schaubel reported that two cases were reviewed by the Committee and strategies were developed to address the students' needs.

**3. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC)**

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy-Scott  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

**“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) dated February 1, 2012, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Barbara Ness provided a summary of the report and expressed appreciation to the parents for their active involvement and contributions to students and the Board.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:**

**4. 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 February 7, 2012, be received;”

“That the draft report of the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for 2012-2013 be received;” and

“That the French Immersion Program Expansion Report dated February 7, 2012, be received;” and

“That the Board direct Senior Administration to send the response letter to the Region of Niagara regarding Smart Growth Principles and the relationship to School Accommodation Reviews as written.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Barbara Ness provided a summary of the report of the Program and Planning Committee which included discussion on the draft report of the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for 2012-2013; the French Immersion Program Expansion Report dated February 7, 2012; and a response to the Region of Niagara regarding Smart Growth Principles and the relationship to School Accommodation Reviews.

**K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no questions asked of and by Board members.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS****1. Staff Reports****(a) Report of the Fort Erie Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)  
(dated February 14, 2012)**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Dalton Clark**

**“That the Final Report of the Fort Erie Elementary Schools  
Accommodation Review Committee be received by the Board.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Hyatt presented background information on the school accommodation reviews and she reminded the Board that at its meeting of May 24, 2011, the Board passed a motion to conduct an Accommodation Review of the Fort Erie Elementary Planning Area 17B, which includes Fort Erie Elementary School, Garrison Road Public School, General Vanier Public School, and Rose Seaton Public School. Superintendent Hyatt also presented an overview of the final report which included information on the accommodation review process, school program, school facilities, demographics and housing, ARC meeting highlights, guiding principles, Public meeting highlights, school valuation, and the findings and recommendations of the Accommodation Review Committee.

In response to questions from Trustees Barnett and Fulford for additional information, Superintendent Hyatt suggested to all Trustees that their questions for additional information be submitted to her office for a response.

Chair Maves and Director Hoshizaki added that the Trustees are only receiving the report tonight and that Trustees will have an opportunity to ask questions during the next 60 day period.

Trustee Keddy-Scott commended Superintendent Hyatt for bringing forward a thorough report. Trustee Clark commended the ARC Committee members for undertaking the challenge of making difficult decisions in the best interests of students.

In response to Trustee Fulford's question regarding the availability of Ministry funding for the recommended facility upgrades and construction, Superintendent Weinberg replied that the Board is in a position to fund capital costs from the capital reserve fund, subject to Ministry approval for expenditures from capital funds.

Trustee Lora Campbell thanked staff for facilitating a recent tour of the schools under review and for answering questions.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**

- (b) **Report of DSBN Senior Administration on the Fort Erie Accommodation Review (dated February 14, 2012)**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Dalton Clark**

**“That the Report of Board Administration on the 2011-2012 Fort Erie Elementary Schools Accommodation Review be received by the Board.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Sue Mark presented an overview of the Report of Board Administration and recommendations, which included background information, financial estimates, and rationale on the Board Administration option on the 2011-2012 Fort Erie Elementary Schools Accommodation Review (Planning Area 17B). Superintendent Mark noted that according to Board Policy F-2: Accommodation Review Guidelines for the Planning of School Program and Facility Needs, Board Administration must provide the Accommodation Review Committee with accommodation options for the review area together with detailed information outlining the implications.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Information Session scheduled.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

- (a) Letter from the City of Thorold regarding Thorold Secondary School
- (b) Letter from Cindy Forster, MPP, Welland Riding

Chair Maves noted that the letters have been referred to the Accommodation Review Committees and the letters are being presented to the Trustees for information only.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Trustee Sue Barnett gave a reminder that it is “Make Change for Children” time. Trustee Barnett also encouraged membership in the Education Foundation of Niagara in support of students.
- (b) Trustee Alex Bradnam gave a reminder of the upcoming Woodend Ride Hike Run fundraising event on Sunday, May 6, 2012. Information and registration is available at <http://dsbn.org/woodend/>.



**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:****Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (c) Trustee Alex Bradnam gave a reminder of the Technological Skills Challenges taking place throughout the Board until March 2, 2012. Trustee Bradnam encouraged everyone to support the students by attending some of the events.
- (d) Trustee Alex Bradnam reported that Laura Secord Secondary School is presenting its musical “The Drowsy Chaperone” on February 23, 24, 25 and March 1, 2, 3. Matinees will be presented on February 21, 22, 28 and 29. Information and tickets are available at the school.
- (e) Trustee Alex Bradnam commended Crossroads Public School on its recent grand opening ceremonies.
- (f) Trustee Ed Fulford encouraged Trustees to visit schools and observe the students’ involvement in a variety of activities. Trustee Fulford commended students on their talent and sportsmanship.
- (g) Trustee Dave Schaubel commended Fort Erie Secondary School on its successful Pomegranate Restaurant.
- (h) Student Trustee Joelle Schonberg reported that over 2,500 secondary students have completed the Student Survey. The survey will be available until February 22, 2012.
- (i) Trustee Alex Bradnam confirmed that DSBN Academy Principal, Tom Reynolds, was presented with the Award for Teaching Excellence at the recent BEC Breakfast. Chair Maves commended Principal Reynolds on receiving the Award and for his character in sharing the stage and honour with his students.
- (j) Chair Maves reported that at the recent, well attended BEC Breakfast the Board was presented with a Pen Financial “Community Partnership Award” in recognition of its long standing relationship with Pen Financial for the benefit of students.

**5. Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA) Report**

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott reported on the recent Public Education Symposium held from January 26-28, 2012. The Honourable Laurel Broten, Minister of Education, and Amanda Lang, CBC’s Senior Business Correspondent, were keynote speakers. Trustees had the opportunity to attend a variety of informative workshops on topics such as social media, bullying prevention, and health and safety.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:****Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report**

Trustee Keddy-Scott noted the following dates to remember:

March 28-31, 2012 - Labour Relations Symposium  
June 7-9, 2012 – Annual General Meeting (Thunder Bay)  
October 25/26, 2012 - Summit on Children and Youth Mental Health

Trustee Keddy-Scott added that the District School Board of Niagara is being considered to host the 2013 Annual General Meeting. Chair Maves suggested that if the Board is successful, that an Ad Hoc Committee be struck for planning purposes.

Trustee Keddy-Scott indicated that a package of further information is available in the Trustees' Lounge, including information on Trustee Fulford's reference to religious accommodation.

**6. Future Meetings**

The revised calendar of February 2012 meetings and events was amended as follows:

February 28	Finance Committee – 5:00 p.m.
March 1	Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) – 5:00 p.m.

Superintendent Sue Greer noted that the Trustees have been invited to attend the upcoming Sears Drama Festival which runs from February 27 – March 1, 2012.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Barbara Ness**  
**Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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**WARREN HOSHIZAKI**, Director of Education  
and Secretary/Treasurer