



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**May 22, 2012**

6:45 – 7:30 p.m. (Private Session)

7:30 – 11:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Student Trustees:** Joelle Schonberg and Evan Vassallo (present for Public Session)

**Regrets:** Trustee Barbara Ness

**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 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 7:30 p.m.

2. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

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

**B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)**

Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

**CARRIED**

Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Dalton Clark

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:35 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was sung by “Harmonious Relations,” accompanied on piano by Caroline Leip, Sheridan Park Public School.

Chair Maves introduced the members of “Harmonious Relations,” Elaine Epp, Human Resources Assistant; Sue Greer, Superintendent of School Support Services; Mick Leane, Custodian; and Kim Yielding, Manager of Public Relations and Communications.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Dalton Clark opened the meeting with an Aboriginal prayer.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy-Scott

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:****2. Approval of Board Minutes**

Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated May 8, 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 by 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) Janeya Lyew – Applewood Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Janeya Lyew, a Grade 6 student at Applewood Public School, for receiving a “Young Citizen” Award at the recent DSBN Regional Heritage Fair. Janeya’s project entitled, *Forgotten Soldiers of 1812*, focused on the role of Aborigines in the War of 1812. Janeya will represent the DSBN and Applewood Public School at the Provincial Heritage Fair in Toronto this June. Director Hoshizaki also commended Janeya for demonstrating good citizenship every day, for working hard, living up to her word, and for being a strong advocate for others.

Director Hoshizaki presented Janeya with a certificate in recognition of her achievement.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****Director’s Report and Recognition****(b) Bryce Honsinger – Applewood Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Applewood Public School Teacher Bryce Honsinger for enrolling in the Microsoft Innovative Teaching Awards competition. Applewood is currently one of the final twelve schools in competition in Canada for a place at the World Finals in Greece later this year. The top three projects move onto Greece. The Applewood project, “*Creating a Global Consciousness About Poverty and Hunger*,” is posted on the Microsoft Partners in Learning website at <http://www.pil-network.com/>

**(c) Pierre Simiganoschi – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Pierre Simiganoschi, a Grade 9 student at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, for winning third place in the French as a Second Language category at the recent annual French public-speaking event organized by Canadian Parents for French (Ontario) and the Ontario Modern Language Teachers’ Association. Pierre’s speech titled, “*L’or noir*,” highlighted the importance of oil in our society today, our dependency on this non-renewable resource, as well as the damage of oil spills, oil rigs in the ocean and alternative sources of energy.

**(d) National Skills Canada Competition (Edmonton)**

Director Hoshizaki recognized DSBN students on their success at the recent National Skills Canada Competition in Edmonton. Stephanie Stanov and Blake Hannahson from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School won a Gold Medal in the TV/Video Production competition and Niki Harris from Stamford Collegiate won a Bronze Medal for Hairstyling.

**2. Showcase Presentation****1. CUPE/DSBN – Energy Savings Program**

Superintendent Joe Weinberg introduced the presentation which recognized the continued success of the Energy Conservation Program under the leadership of Doug Durant, Manager of Projects and Maintenance, and the Energy Committee.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****CUPE/DSBN – Energy Savings Program**

Doug Durant, Manager of Projects and Maintenance, added that the Energy Committee was established in 2001 when CUPE Local 4156 presented a proposal to conserve energy within the Board. Since then all employee groups are represented on the Committee, and work as a team in implementing strategies to conserve energy. This year, sixty-nine participating schools have realized \$196,000 in annual savings in electrical energy consumption. The success of the program also reflects the positive working relationships amongst all the Board's employee groups. Doug Durant added that the program is recognized provincially and used by other School Boards as a model for energy conservation.

Committee Member and OSSTF Representative, John Seebach, introduced the winners.

Representatives from the following schools were presented with a plaque in recognition of their schools' successful participation in the Energy Conservation Program in the 2012 year.

Most Energy Saved	Elementary - Bertie Public School
	Secondary - E.L. Crossley Secondary School

Most Improved	Elementary - Winger Public School
	Secondary - Eden High School

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked everyone involved for their ongoing commitment to this program and he commended all schools and work sites for their participation and efforts to reduce energy use.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**

There were no student achievement reports.

**H. DELEGATIONS**

1. Henry D'Angela - Thorold Resident, spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School. Mr. D'Angela's remarks included the following:
  - Asked the Trustees to support the staff option to maintain Thorold Secondary School
  - Spoke of his experiences as the former Mayor of Thorold regarding Thorold Secondary School's positive impact on the community which demonstrate that the high school is an integral part of the community
  - Without participation of students from Thorold Secondary School, many of the community initiatives would not be successful

**DELEGATIONS – continued:**

2. Michelle Combe - Mary Jane Combe - in support of West Park Secondary School.

- Michelle Combe introduced a video which highlighted West Park's outstanding academic and extra-curricular programs

Mary Jane Combe - spoke in support of West Park Secondary School. Remarks included the following:

There are inconsistencies in the Senior Administration report, including:

- The rationale that the Senior Staff recommendation would not impact any students currently attending Extended French at Sir Winston; this is offensive as the same consideration was not given to students at other schools who will be disrupted in the midst of their high school career
- There are cost estimate irregularities in the report with respect to the reporting of Top Up Funding, which suggests that West Park will be more costly to keep open
- Failure to recognize renewal costs of the schools that will remain open
- Reference to the inability to adjust boundaries to support West Park when there is no need to change the boundaries, rather consider where programming is being provided
- The inconsistencies in the report bring into question the motivation and the validity of the Senior Administration's report

3. Sergio Paone – spoke on the reports of the Accommodation Review Committee and the Senior Administration on the South St. Catharines and Thorold Accommodation Review. Mr. Paone's remarks included the following:

- As the City of Thorold's representative on the Accommodation Review Committee, supports the Senior Administration report, and he and others will work actively to address its challenges and make it work
- The Senior Administrative Report minimizes the negative impact on students
- Thorold Secondary School has the largest capacity of the schools under review
- With respect to long term viability (retention rate) Thorold Secondary School has a good record
- The summary of financial estimates shows that the Senior Administration option would save the Board the most money, including the cost of transportation
- Thorold Council has committed to establishing a Committee of Council members; school and school board representatives; and students whose purpose would be to build and retain enrollment, and to work with the Board for better access to a sports field
- Thorold Secondary School plays an integral part in smart growth planning in Thorold

**DELEGATIONS – continued:**

4. Christine Peacock – spoke in support of West Park Secondary School. Ms. Peacock's remarks included the following:
  - Every student should have equal access to a quality education
  - The trend across the western world impacts negatively on that, including declining enrolment, school boards' policies, specialty schools, and boundary issues that threaten neighbourhood schools, and lead to higher costs such as transportation, as reflected in two newspaper articles which chronicle the results of such policies
  - A recent report by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) addresses issues of growing social inequality and segregation in public schools, suggesting that school transfers be monitored by school board staff to limit manipulation of the system
  - Specialty programs should be eliminated to protect neighbourhood schools
  - West Park Secondary School has scored well in rankings by the Fraser Institute, it has a good academic record, and there is potential for growth in the West Park area
  - Suggested that the Board seek alternative ways to balance enrolment and keep neighbourhood schools open
  
5. Emily Akrigg – spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School. Ms. Akrigg's remarks included the following:
  - As the Thorold Secondary School Student Representative on the Accommodation Review Committee, considers the Senior Administration proposal the better option, particularly as it provides easier access to the French Immersion program to the large area of St. Catharines that lies above the QEW which will sustain the program in the long term

Jake Murphy, student, spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School, noting that Thorold Secondary School can provide both academic and technological programming for students, rather than students being forced to choose to be an academic student at Sir Winston Churchill, or a technological student at St. Catharines Collegiate.

Madison Wrighton, student, spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School and the sense of community that comes from attending Thorold Secondary School.

Cameron Philip, student, spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School and the importance of attending a school where he lives, which enables students to be involved in their school community and extra-curricular activities.

Hannah Bride – student, spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School and the positive impact that attending a smaller school as well as attending the same school as other students from her community has had on her.

**DELEGATIONS – continued:**

6. Roman Procyk – in support of West Park Secondary School (sent regrets)
7. Tim Whalen – spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School. Mr. Whalen's remarks included the following:
  - As a Thorold City Councilor, and from a business community perspective, the closure of Thorold Secondary School would negatively impact the business community, and the City of Thorold as a whole; many local businesses could not survive without the support of the school community
  - The Board Administration's recommendation would promote a strong relationship again with Merritton and South St. Catharines
  - The Merritton area is situated for population growth and more opportunity to produce enrolment growth for Thorold Secondary School
  - The City of Thorold has the potential for development and population growth for building enrolment
  - The Thorold and area business community has always respected and supported Thorold Secondary School students.
8. Christine Arsenault – spoke in support of West Park Secondary School. Ms. Arsenault's remarks included the following:
  - As a high performance athlete and swimmer, recognizes that West Park has the potential for being the site to develop a swimming community in Niagara which will enable students to explore personal goals for high performance athletes; and for developing a Specialized High Skills Major program in athletics
  - Maintaining West Park Pool is integral in this proposal which is being discussed with a group of people and the City of St. Catharines
  - Asked Trustees to keep West Park open and consider options that exist for students and to consider the value of West Park to the entire community
  - Based on the group's 5 year capital budget plan, the pool can run for another 20 years and be a remarkable aquatic facility
  - There is potential and growth at West Park, including the development of a multisport program second to none in Southern Ontario
  - Western Hill has the potential for growth and development to revitalize the West St. Catharines area
  - Provincial Smart Growth planning programs may be available to further develop the West St. Catharines area
  - West Park has a history of developing outstanding athletes, and it has the potential for future growth and unique development which will benefit the entire community
9. Allan Gallant – in support of Thorold Secondary School (sent regrets)



**DELEGATIONS – continued:**

10. Kevin Lihou – spoke in support of West Park Secondary School. Mr. Lihou noted that he is a rowing coach at West Park and a West Park graduate. Mr. Lihou's remarks included the following:
  - Questioned why the Board would consider closing or repurposing the two newest facilities under review, Kernahan Park Secondary School and West Park Secondary School; this does not support the Board Administration's rationale that aging schools are more costly to maintain
  - Based on that rationale, the recommendation to close Kernahan Park and West Park will be more costly for the Board to retrofit and renew Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School and St. Catharines Collegiate
  - Keeping West Park open will result in cost savings to the Board; West Park does not require retrofitting; or additional transportation costs; under Good Places to Learn funding West Park only received an elevator
  - Locating the French Immersion program at Sir Winston was to increase its enrolment
  - Suggestion that the West Park boundary students attending Sir Winston be returned to their home school resulting in cost savings to the Board and building capacity at West Park and Sir Winston
  - Since 2005 there have been developments at West Park, notably growth in the Music Department
  - West Park has been highly ranked academically in the Fraser Report
  - If West Park closes, a two school option for students may present more problems than solutions; questioned how the distribution of West Park students will be implemented
  
11. Sandi Jones – a parent and Merritton resident spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School. Ms. Jones' remarks included the following:
  - The Merritton area of St. Catharines is a testament that you can be a community without a high school
  - St. Catharines has six secondary schools, more than necessary from a business perspective
  - Thorold Secondary School is the only high school and of greater value to the Thorold community because it is the only high school within the community
  - Suggested that programming deficits or inequalities have forced some students in Thorold to seek a different high school out of the boundaries, therefore begging the question of who gets what programs, and why should the availability of certain programs at certain schools be allowed to happen to the detriment of others; for example almost every high school in St. Catharines offers a music program and a hockey program whereas Thorold has none
  - Programming should strive to meet as many student needs in a financially responsible way and lower busing costs
  - Supports the Senior Administration's recommendation to change boundaries and allow Merritton students into Thorold
  - Questioned why all of the programming that would be lost in the closures of West Park and Kernahan be awarded to Collegiate when Thorold has the capacity and the community support for the addition of many programs

**DELEGATIONS – continued:**

- Keeping Thorold Secondary School open; enhancing programming to meet the needs of the students within the city and community areas is the responsible and financially feasible answer
12. Anne Fenwick – former West Park Secondary School parent, spoke in support of West Park Secondary School. Ms. Fenwick’s remarks included the following:
- Every student is entitled to a quality education, however, we must look at what makes one school building different from the other, and how public opinions can be cultivated or inflamed
  - According to MPP Cindy Forster each individual site and its impact on the local area is what should be addressed in determining closures
  - Historically, West Park has been fighting the ill conceived perception that it is a poor choice, resulting in parents making decisions based on what they thought or heard about the school
  - By not enforcing boundaries and permitting transfers, the School Board failed in their role and fostered the perception that West Park was not a good school
  - By keeping West Park open, its capacity is projected to increase to 93.3% by 2021, whereas by keeping Thorold open, its capacity would only increase to 52.8%; West Park does not need any renovations; it can accommodate an additional 400 students at no cost
  - West Park is an extremely culturally diverse school, representative of our Canadian culture; by keeping West Park as a community school, we are providing students with valuable life lessons of how to live in a diverse society.
  - West St. Catharines has the greatest growth rate in the city, and potential for future growth and development
  - West Park is an integral part of the community serving the educational and recreational needs of all families and it has the potential to become the flagship school of St. Catharines.
13. Eric Nixon – spoke in support of Thorold Secondary School. Mr. Nixon noted that he was the School Council designate for Thorold Secondary School on the Accommodation Review Committee. Mr. Nixon’s remarks included the following:
- Thorold Secondary School is supported by the majority of the home community; more than 63% of the eligible students have chosen to attend their home school; the community is committed to supporting and enhancing Thorold Secondary School which has the potential for growth
  - The Accommodation Review recommendation has implications for St Catharines’ secondary schools and Thorold
  - Closing Thorold Secondary School and redirecting students to alternate schools would be inefficient and costly; the disruption would benefit one part of one city; but Thorold would be left without a high school
  - The *Green Belt Act’s* cap on new residential zoning in West St. Catharines limits future growth at West Park Secondary whereas there is no cap for Thorold, resulting in potential for growth and long-term viability

**DELEGATIONS – continued:**

- Thorold Secondary School has long term viability with extensive renovations in the past five years; the sports park is owned by the City who promise to maintain it indefinitely for the school's use
  - Students have access to downtown Thorold businesses which support the local business community
  - Thorold Secondary School students understand the importance of their high school to the community; and the community values the school, local enrolment is high
  - Thorold Secondary offers a mix of quality academic and technical programs
  - The Senior Staff recommendation is the most responsible option, socially and economically; it maintains a vital school in a growing area; it reduces DSBN's transportation costs; and it conforms to the wishes of Extended French families by maintaining the program at Sir Winston Churchill
14. Nellie Pijl – spoke in support of Kernahan Park Secondary School. Ms. Pijl's remarks included the following:
- Questioned inconsistencies in the facts in the Board Administration's report, including the school's capacity and projected enrolment
  - Questioned the statement that small schools cost more when Kernahan Park has the lowest building and operating costs of the other three schools under review
  - Questioned why students with specialized needs are attending St. Catharines Collegiate when Kernahan Park is a school that has all the programs in place for these students to benefit from, including the School to Work Program; suggested that sending the students to St. Catharines Collegiate was intentional to increase its enrolment and protect it from closing
  - Keeping St. Catharines Collegiate open at the expense of Kernahan Park is wrong
  - Kernahan Park was carefully planned and established to meet the learning needs of students who cannot function in a regular school environment and it provides a range of programs to meet the needs of special education students
  - The rights of students who are denied the opportunity to attend Kernahan Park if that is their choice are violated according to the United Nations Charter of Rights: The Right of the Child, and under the Special Educations Act.
  - Provincial Grants for Student Needs will increase in 2012-2013
  - Asked the Trustees to remember the rights of the child and that students with a disability are a priority
  - If Kernahan is closed education in St. Catharines will never be the same

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked all the Delegations for their presentations and he noted that their input will be considered when the recommendations are debated at an upcoming Board meeting.

**I. BOARD RECESS**

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

**“That the Board recess.”**

**CARRIED**

The Board recessed at 9:25 p.m.

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

**“That the Board resume the business of the Board.”**

**CARRIED**

The business of the Board resumed at 9:45 p.m.

**J. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. ACCOUNTS**

**Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Dalton Clark**

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 0990 to 1006 for the month of April 2012, totalling \$16,343,827.19 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY (SEAC) COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy-Scott**

**“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated May 10, 2012, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****3. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

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

**“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated May 16, 2012, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustee Joelle Schonberg provided highlights of the meeting which included a question and answer period with Director Hoshizaki; a DSBNI report and video presentation on last summer's build in Vietnam; a report on Woodend; and fundraising events. Student Trustee Vassallo commended the Student Trustee Senate for all its work and for all their fundraising activities that support students. Student Trustee Schonberg introduced MacKenzie Wiens (Eden High School) who was recently elected as Student Trustee for the 2012-2013 school year.

Trustee Barnett commended the Student Trustees on their recent Excellence in Education Awards. Trustees also thanked the Student Trustees for an excellent year and commended them for their leadership skills and for supporting students in a variety of ways. Trustee Schaubel noted that participating on the Student Trustee Senate has been an enjoyable experience.

**4. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

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

**“That the report of the Finance Committee dated May 22, 2012, be received and the recommendations adopted;” and**

**“That the low bid received from Kraun Electric, in the amount of \$3,215,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Eden High School Renovation Project;” and**

**“That the low bid received from Brouwer Construction, in the amount of \$6,562,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the construction of the new public elementary school in Welland;” and**

**“That the low bid received from T.R. Hinan Contractors, in the amount of \$3,210,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Governor Simcoe Secondary School Renovation Project;” and**

**“That the information report on the Phase-in of Employee Future Benefits to Budget Compliance be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Dalton Clark reported that the Committee met to consider tenders with respect to the Eden High School Renovation Project, the construction of the new public elementary school in Welland, and the Governor Simcoe Secondary School Renovation Project. Trustee Clark noted the tenders being recommended for acceptance came in under the projected budget. Trustee Clark also reported that discussion took place on the reporting process and phase-in of employee future benefits to budget compliance. The new reporting process will add approximately \$600,000 to the Board's expenditure budget and also allow the Board to move some reserves set aside for specific purposes into General Operating Reserves. The Committee also received an update on the 2012-2013 budget process. Trustee Clark noted the next meetings of the Finance Committee are scheduled for June 5 at 5:00 p.m.; June 13 at 7:00 p.m.; and if required, on June 20 at 7:00 p.m. in order to finalize the budget.

In response to a question regarding reference to the January 2005 motion which authorizes the annual transfer of funds out of the general operating accumulated surplus, Trustee Clark replied that in January 2005 the Board authorized that on an annual basis approximately \$2,000,000 of the General Operating Reserve be set aside to cover unexpected or unbudgeted expenditures, or to provide limited funding for other approved one-time expenditures. Trustee Clark explained that the Board has been fiscally responsible and this authorized practice has enabled the Board to fund additional approved programs which support students.

Trustees suggested that the practice of transferring funds out of the general operating accumulated surplus should be an annual Board decision rather than based on the ongoing reliance on the 2005 motion.

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

In response to Trustees' questions on process regarding the Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary Schools 2011-2012 Accommodation Review recommendations that will be coming forward for deliberation at an upcoming Board meeting, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, reminded the Trustees that the process by which recommendations and motions are dealt with is set out in the Board's By-Laws and Rules of Order.

Chair Maves and Director Hoshizaki suggested that specific questions regarding process be directed to the Chair, or Vice-Chair, or the Director's Office, or to Brenda Stokes Verworn, for a response to all Trustees to ensure there is an understanding of the By-Laws and Rules of Order prior to deliberation.

Trustees asked for clarification that the recommendations in the Report of the Board Administration will be presented for deliberation.

**QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS – continued:**

Superintendent Hyatt clarified for Trustees that the Ministry of Education's Accommodation Review Guidelines, and Board Policy F-2: Accommodation Review Guidelines For The Planning Of School Program And Facility Needs, directs that the final Accommodation Review Committee Report and Recommendations be submitted to the Senior Staff. Thereafter, the Senior Staff review and analyze the ARC Report and Recommendations and present the Senior Staff proposals and recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

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

There were no staff reports.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

1. The Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) has requested the names of two Trustees appointed as Director and Alternate Director to serve on the OPSBA Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 school year.

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

**“That Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott be appointed to serve as OPSBA Director for the 2012-2013 school year, and**

**“That Trustee Sue Barnett be appointed to serve as the Alternate OPSBA Director for the 2012-2013 school year, and**

**“That Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott be appointed as the Voting Delegate for the Annual General meeting and Regional Council meetings for the 2012-2013 school year, and**

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

**“That Trustee Sue Barnett be appointed as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the Annual General meeting and Regional Council meetings for the 2012-2013 school year.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustees Cheryl Keddy-Scott and Sue Barnett accepted the nominations and appointments.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Trustees Keddy-Scott and Barnett for their hard work and attendance at the OPSBA meetings.

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott commended OPSBA for all it does to support Public School Boards.

2. **Letter from Ministry of Education – School Board Amalgamations**

Chair Maves noted that more information on the Ministry’s direction and affected School Boards will be available following the May 29<sup>th</sup> teleconference.

4. **Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Trustee Sue Barnett noted that submissions can be made at <http://www.dsbn.org> to name the new elementary school in Welland.
- (b) Trustee Barnett commended the organizers and supporters of the recent Education Foundation of Niagara’s Prom Project on a very successful event.
- (c) Trustee Barnett reported that Prince Edward Island MP Mark Eyking recently met with students from the DSBN Academy where he discussed the bio fuel oil project. Mr. Eyking noted that he was impressed with the DSBN Academy and that he was interested in developing a similar facility in Nova Scotia.
- (d) Trustee Barnett noted that Habitat for Humanity has expressed an interest in developing initiatives with the DSBN Academy.
- (e) Student Trustee Joelle Schonberg invited everyone to attend Stamford Collegiate’s production of “Grease” which will be presented next week.



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

- (f) Trustee Keddy-Scott reported that she and Superintendent Dickson attended Smith Public School's recent 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration where they presented the school with a plaque on behalf of the Board. The school was also presented with a plaque on behalf of Premier Dalton McGuinty in commemoration of its anniversary.

Further information on events and news happening within the Board can be found at <http://www.dsbns.org> and/or on the schools' websites.

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

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott reported that the Annual General Meeting will take place on June 6<sup>th</sup> where discussion will take place on setting priorities for next year as well as on a number of issues of interest to Public School Boards.

**6. Future Meetings**

The calendar of events for June 2012 was provided.

The following revisions were made:

June 5 Finance Committee – 5:00 p.m. (change from June 6<sup>th</sup>)

Superintendent Sue Greer gave a reminder and extended an invitation to the following events:

May 29 CAPPIES Award Ceremonies – 7:00 p.m.

May 31 Graduate Art Show

June 13 Special Olympics Track and Field Day (June 15<sup>th</sup> rain date)

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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