



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

June 12, 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 (present for Public Session), Cheryl Keddy-Scott (present for Public Session), Barbara Ness, Dale Robinson, Dave Schaubel

Student

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

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, Brett Sweeney, 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 Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Sue Barnett

“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 7:00 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was sung by Vineland Public School Choir, on tape.

D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING

The Board stood for a minute of silence in remembrance of student Clayton Wismer who recently died in a tragic accident.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Barbara Ness
Seconded by Sue Barnett

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

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

Moved by Ed Fulford
Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated May 22, 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 Dalton Clark

“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) Principal Jim Heywood, Grimsby Secondary School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Jim Heywood, Principal, Grimsby Secondary School, for his 32 years of service with the Board in a variety of paraprofessional, teaching and Administrative roles. Director Hoshizaki noted that Principal Heywood has exemplified the role of Principal within the Board and he is described as being a great ambassador for all of our schools, and a supporter of the successes of his students, teachers, and staff. Principal Heywood is respected by his peers and Board staff, and he is known for his great sense of humour, positive attitude, and enthusiasm that inspires students and staff.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**Director's Report and Recognition**

Principal Heywood is also known for being a system thinker and a system supporter who possesses a wealth of corporate knowledge. Director Hoshizaki added that Principal Heywood is a life-long learner who is willing and open to accept new ideas, and he works hard to implement the change that has made a significant difference to our schools and our system.

(b) Sheila Welsh, Principal, Edith Cavell Public School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Principal Welsh for exemplifying what it means to be a life-long learner and to never give up on your dreams when, as an adult, she decided to change careers and successfully became a teacher. When Principal Welsh was interviewed by the Board in 1998 she passionately expressed her desire to support special education students and soon thereafter she was placed at Richmond St. Public School, teaching a special education class. Principal Welsh has been the Principal at Edith Cavell Public School since 2007 where she is respected for her no-nonsense, "tell it like it is approach" and good old fashion common sense. Principal Welsh leads by example and she supports her students and families in a variety of ways, both during and outside the school day. Principal Welsh is known for doing whatever it takes to support her kids by breaking through barriers with an iron will that serves notice to everyone – my students will succeed –either come along and support us or get out of the way. Principal Welsh is also known for making everyone feel special and important and for her empathy, positive attitude, and great sense of humour that have transformed Edith Cavell and inspired others to take action.

Director Hoshizaki presented Principals Heywood and Welsh with a token of the Board's appreciation for their service to students.

(c) Keely Martin – Grade 1/2 Teacher, and Gera Harvie – Educational Assistant, Greendale Public School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Keely Martin and Gera Harvie for teaching and supporting a very unique Grades 1 /2 all boys class with a myriad of needs. Keely and Gera have become an unstoppable team. Their energy, ability to celebrate the strengths in every student and sheer determination have resulted in a class of students who have made huge gains academically, socially and as a community. This class of boys truly are a team who care about and for each other. There have been many challenges, but Keely and Gera have faced them head on as they work to ensure that each boy in this class has reached their full potential.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**Director's Report and Recognition**

Director Hoshizaki presented Keely and Gera with a token of the Board's appreciation for making such a difference to 15 amazing boys at Greendale Public School.

(d) French Contest Winner

Director Hoshizaki acknowledged Claire Henderson, a grade 9 Extended French student at A. N. Myer, as the winner of the short story for French "Encounters with Canada" 2012 Fiction Contest. Students are asked to create their own original work in French on a theme they find most inspiring. The contest is open to all Ontario students in grades 9-11 studying French as a Second Language (Core French, Extended French or French Immersion). "Encounters with Canada" is a program of the Historica Foundation of Canada that allows French and English youth from across the country to come together and live a week of unforgettable memories at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa. Claire will be attending the week-long "Encounters with Canada" program in Ottawa next year as her prize.

(e) Celebrating Leadership in Environmental Initiatives

Director Hoshizaki acknowledged Sharon Keller, Science Program lead at E. L. Crossley Secondary School, who was selected as the winner in the *Volunteer Award* category for the 2012 Niagara Region Environmental Awards Program. Sharon will be recognized at an official ceremony for making a significant contribution to safeguarding our natural environment. As the school leader for environmental initiatives, Sharon formed the "EARTH" club (Environmental Advocates Ready to Help) many years ago. She went on to coordinate fun, educational and memorable activities school-wide and within the community including Energy Audits, Waste Audits, School Ground Greening projects, Water initiatives and more. She has secured funding to support E.L. Crossley's environmental initiatives, including the coveted Toyota Evergreen Learning Ground Program.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended all of the staff and students on their achievements.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**2. Grimsby Secondary School - Youth and Philanthropy**

Superintendent John Stainsby introduced the presentation which showcased the students' Youth and Philanthropy initiative. Superintendent Stainsby explained that this initiative provides secondary school students with a hands-on experience through a strong academic philanthropy program which gives them the skills to assess community needs and make grants to grassroots charitable organizations meeting those needs. The program empowers young people to actively participate in the development of their communities and engage as dedicated problem solvers and volunteers. The program which is incorporated into the curriculum of participating secondary schools, also promotes a sense of responsibility, respect and a commitment to building compassionate communities.

Superintendent Stainsby will share the benefits of this program with other DSBN secondary schools.

The participating students were presented with a certificate in recognition of their award winning video which showcased the Grimsby Life Centre, a non-profit charitable organization.

3. Greendale Public School

Superintendent Cam Hathaway introduced the presentation which featured students from Greendale Public School showcasing their "hip hop moves!"

Principal VandenBeukel explained the history of the program. A performance of the boys showcasing their dancing program followed.

Chair Maves, Vice-Chair Robinson, and Director Hoshizaki presented the students with a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

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 SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (SAL) COMMITTEE**

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the report of the Supervised Alternate Learning (SAL) Committee dated May 23, 2012, be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Dave Schaubel reported that fourteen cases were reviewed at the recent meeting and opportunities were developed for the students' success.

2. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated June 5, 2012, be received;” and

“That the low bid received from Charter Building Company, in the amount of \$995,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Stamford Collegiate Secondary School Renovation Project;” and

“That the low bid received from Mario’s Electric, in the amount of \$1,315,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Welland Centennial Secondary School Electrical Updating Project;” and

“That the low bid received from TAT Construction, in the amount of \$507,639 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the St. Catharines Service Centre Renovation Project.”

CARRIED

Trustee Dalton Clark reported that the Committee met to consider tenders with respect to the Stamford Collegiate Secondary School Renovation Project, the Welland Centennial Secondary School Electrical Updating Project, and the St. Catharines Service Centre Renovation Project. Trustee Clark noted that the tenders being recommended for acceptance came in slightly over budget.

Trustee Bradnam commended the Finance Department and staff involved in bringing forward tenders that will benefit the Board and the community.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

- (a) Trustee Lora Campbell suggested that audio be provided when staff and students are being presented with certificates in recognition of their achievements.
- (b) Trustee Ed Fulford requested a copy of a recently published report entitled, “Ontario’s Best Public Schools: 2009-2011,” which addresses issues of socio-economic status and student achievement. A link to the report will be provided to Trustees.

L. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**1. Staff Reports****(a) Report of the “Naming the New Welland School” Committee**

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

“That the new elementary school in Welland be named, “Diamond Trail Public School.”

CARRIED

Superintendent Wes Hahn outlined the process that was followed by the Naming Committee to recommend a name for the new Welland school in accordance with Board Policy A-9: Naming/Renaming of Schools. Superintendent Hahn acknowledged the community members of the Naming Committee and thanked them for their time and effort throughout the process.

Superintendent Hahn presented three names proposed by the Naming Committee (specifically Diamond Trail Public School, Trillium South Public School, and Southworth Public School), the Policy Criteria that guided the Naming Committee’s discussions and the development of proposed names, and the significance of each proposed name to the school community.

Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, explained the balloting procedure as set out in Policy A-9 and noted that she and Superintendent Weinberg will act as Scrutineers.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**Staff Reports****Report of the “Naming the New Welland School” Committee**

Trustee Barnett acknowledged all of the members of the Naming Committee for participating in the process, as well as everyone who submitted proposed names.

Following a balloted vote of the three proposed names, Chair Maves reported that the Trustees unanimously selected the name “***Diamond Trail Public School***” for the new Welland school.

(b) **Deliberations on the Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary Schools Accommodation Review**

**Moved by Dale Robinson
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

“That the Board receive the report of Senior Administration on the Accommodation Review of Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary Schools dated April 10, 2012;” and

- 1. That Kernahan Park Secondary School be closed for instructional purposes as of August 31, 2013, and**
 - a. That students from Kernahan Park Secondary School be redirected to St. Catharines Collegiate Institute and Vocational School for the school year starting September 2013;
 - b. That St. Catharines Collegiate Institute and Vocational School be renovated to include an additional science lab and additional technology facilities;

and

- 2. That West Park Secondary School be closed for instructional purposes as of August 31, 2013, and**
 - a. That students from West Park Secondary School catchment area be redirected to Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, effective September 2013;
 - b. That for the purposes of technological studies, students within the current West Park Secondary School catchment area have St. Catharines Collegiate Institute and Vocational School as their home boundary school effective September 2013;

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**Staff Reports****Deliberations on the Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary Schools Accommodation Review**

- c. That Senior Administration of the District School Board of Niagara investigate the structure and capacity of elementary feeder schools in the West Park Secondary School catchment area to examine the viability of alternate school uses and structures;

and

3. That Thorold Secondary School remain open, and

- a. That a boundary change be initiated to redirect C34, C35 and C36 to Thorold Secondary School effective September 2013;
- b. That a boundary change be initiated to redirect S24, S25 and S26 to Thorold Secondary School effective September 2013;
- c. That Thorold Secondary School be retrofitted to support grade 7 and 8 Science and Technology;
- d. That Senior Administration of the District School Board of Niagara investigate the structure and capacity of elementary feeder schools in the Thorold Secondary School catchment area to examine the viability of alternative school and grade structures;

and

4. That the Secondary Extended French (French Immersion) Program be split into two locations; and

- a. That grade 9 students north of the QEW and located in Sections S17, S18, S19, S20, S21, S22 and S23 attend Extended French (French Immersion) at Governor Simcoe Secondary School effective September 2013 and the program continue to phase in each year to be a grade 9-12 program in 2016;
- b. That students south of the QEW (excluding Sections S17, S18, S19, S20, S21, S22 and S23) within the current (2011) Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School Extended French (French Immersion) catchment area be directed to attend Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School for the purposes of the Extended French (French Immersion) Program.

CARRIED

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**Staff Reports****Deliberations on the Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary Schools Accommodation Review**

Superintendent Marilyn Hyatt reminded the Board that in May 2011 the Trustees directed the Senior Staff to begin Phase 1 of the Facility Planning Report by initiating Accommodation Reviews in Fort Erie and Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold. Superintendent Hyatt noted that the purpose of the Accommodation Reviews was to ensure that our Board continues to provide students with the best possible public education experience within the existing economic and demographic realities, and projected declining enrolment. Superintendent Hyatt summarized the Ministry mandated guidelines and Board Policy that were followed throughout the Accommodation Review process. Superintendent Hyatt acknowledged the dedication of the Accommodation Review Committee members and those who have taken the time to offer their comments and constructive feedback during this process.

Chair Maves provided each Trustee with an opportunity to speak to the recommended motion. The Trustees each expressed their position on the recommended motion and also provided their rationale and reasons in support of their position.

In response to Trustee Ness' question on whether or not the recommended motion can be split to allow a separate vote on the Kernahan Park Secondary School motion, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, explained that under the Board's Rules of Order (Rule 32) a Trustee can ask to split a motion if they claim it contains two or more distinct propositions, and the motions can then be voted upon separately. No seconder is required to the request to split and there is no debate. The vote is a simple majority.

Trustee Bradnam requested a recorded vote.

Chair Maves called the question, all those in favour of the motion.

Trustee Barnett	In Favour	Trustee Keddy-Scott	Opposed
Trustee Bradnam	Opposed	Chair Maves	In Favour
Trustee Campbell	Opposed	Trustee Ness	In Favour
Trustee Clark	Opposed	Vice-Chair Robinson	In Favour
Trustee Fast	In Favour	Trustee Schaubel	In Favour
Trustee Fulford	Opposed		

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**Staff Reports****Deliberations on the Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary Schools Accommodation Review**

Chair Maves commended the work of the Accommodation Review Committee and the Senior Administration and he thanked everyone, including the Delegations, for their input, which assisted the Board in making a difficult decision in the best interests of students.

BOARD RECESS

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

“That the Board recess.”

CARRIED

The Board recessed at 9:10 p.m.

**Moved by Ed Fulford
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

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

CARRIED

The business of the Board resumed at 9:30 p.m.

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee Information Session.

3. Correspondence and Communication

- (a) Letter from National Congress of Italian Canadians with resolutions from Toronto Catholic and York Region Catholic District School Boards in support of designating the month of June as Italian Heritage Month.

**Moved by Ed Fulford
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

“That the letter from National Congress of Italian Canadians be received for information only.”

CARRIED

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Trustee Sue Barnett noted that the Board is featured in the recent edition of the Ontario College of Teachers' publication, *Professionally Speaking*.
- (b) Trustee Barnett commended schools for their outstanding fundraising efforts in support of the Education Foundation of Niagara's Make Change for Children Trustee Challenge.
- (c) Trustee Barnett thanked Superintendent Hahn for facilitating her and Trustee Schaubel's recent visit to the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre.
- (d) Trustee Barnett invited the Trustees and Senior Staff to attend Princess Elizabeth Public School's barbeque on June 13th in recognition of the introduction of the French Immersion Program at the school.
- (e) Trustee Ed Fulford noted that a recently published newspaper article suggests that fundraising activities in schools may put some schools at a disadvantage. Trustee Fulford suggested that an Information Session be presented on fundraising.
- (f) Trustee Fulford reported that he attended Grand Avenue Public School's recent fundraiser where they successfully raised funds for classroom Smart Boards.
- (g) Trustee Alex Bradnam commended the Dalewood Public School Dragons for raising over \$30,000 in support of the recent Rankin Cancer Run.

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

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

Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott reported that the recent Annual General Meeting was a well organized and informative event. Trustee Keddy-Scott suggested that the Trustees read OPSBA's informative publication, *Fast Reports*.

6. Future Meetings

The revised calendar of events for June 2012 was provided.

June 13 and 20	Finance Committee - cancelled
June 25	Finance Committee – 5:00 p.m.

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy-Scott
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

KEVIN MAVES, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer