



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

November 13, 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, Dalton Clark, Jonathan Fast, Ed Fulford, Cheryl Keddy, Barbara Ness, Dale Robinson, Dave Schaubel

Student Trustees: Mackenzie Ceci and Tara Lundy

Regrets: Trustee Lora Campbell

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), John Dickson, Sue Greer, Wesley Hahn, Cam Hathaway, Sue Mark, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, Kelly Pisek, Carol Purcer, JoAnna Roberto, John Stainsby, Joe Weinberg, Peter Doan, Brett Sweeney, Marian Lamb, Karen Bellamy

Recording Secretary: Irene Foster

Technical Support: 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.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Chair Maves reported that Trustees Sue Barnett, Alex Bradnam, Ed Fulford and Dale Robinson declared conflicts of interest in Committee of the Whole (Private Session).

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

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

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

CARRIED

**Moved by Dalton Clark
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy**

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:25 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by students from McKay Public School, Port Colborne, and Port Colborne High School, on video clip.

The Board remained standing in memory of a Smith Public School student who recently passed away.

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 Ed Fulford
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

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

Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Barbara Ness

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 23, 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 Cheryl Keddy

“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****(a) Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Diane Chase**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Diane Chase, parent and Chair of the Board’s Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), for her dedication and hard work and for making exceptional contributions over the past 10 years for parents and families in all of our schools in DSBN. Director Hoshizaki acknowledged Diane for her continued time, energy and leadership efforts with the annual DSBN Parent Involvement Committee Conference, which has grown significantly since 2002 as a result of her involvement. Over 600 parents attended last week’s 2012 Conference held at Eden High School. Director Hoshizaki noted that Diane first became involved in School Councils in 1996, and she has continued to be active on School Councils at her children’s schools. In 1998 she became a member of the School Council Liaison Committee (the PIC predecessor), is a founding member of the Ontario Parent Involvement Committee and School Council Association, and is a member of the Lake Erie Corridor

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**Director’s Report****Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Diane Chase**

Accommodation Review Committee. In addition, Diane is also active in Minor Hockey and the arena in her community.

Director Hoshizaki and Superintendent Mark presented Diane with a token of the Board’s appreciation of her commitment to students.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended Diane for her extraordinary contributions in support of students, parents and schools throughout the Board over the past ten years.

(b) Laura Secord Secondary School Drum Flash Mob at Niagara Regional Council

Director Hoshizaki recognized Laura Secord Secondary School students who recently surprised members of Niagara Regional Council when their Drumline Band was invited to appear at Council for a “flash mob” performance. The Board viewed a video clip of the performance which was well received by Niagara Regional Council.

(c) South Lincoln High School Pink Football Game

Director Hoshizaki recognized the South Lincoln High School Football Team (Bears) for wearing pink socks in support of finding a cure for breast cancer during their recent home game against West Park Secondary School. The entire school population also supported the cause by dressing in pink. Over \$1,000 was raised to support breast cancer research. The Board viewed a video clip of the initiative.

Director Hoshizaki noted that many DSBN schools took part in fundraising or Breast Cancer Awareness initiatives throughout October and we are very proud of their efforts and community spirit.

(d) Westmount Public School

Director Hoshizaki commended staff and students at Westmount Public School on their recent recognition from Thorold Community Care for collecting over 1400 lbs of food during the recent “Hallowe’en for Hungry” campaign.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**Director’s Report****(e) Random Acts of Kindness**

Director Hoshizaki noted that the Board sponsored *Random Act of Kindness Day*, which took place on Friday, November 9, 2012. Random Act of Kindness cards were sent to all schools and administration buildings to encourage each recipient to perform a simple act of kindness for someone, hopefully inspiring that person to pay it forward with a kind act for someone else. Director Hoshizaki added that our schools and students quietly perform many acts of kindness for their local communities across Niagara throughout the year and thanked them for their ongoing kindness and generosity.

2. Student Involvement Funding

Superintendent Sue Greer introduced the showcase. Superintendent Greer explained that this past year, the DSNB received \$46,000 in grants that supported 66 Student Involvement initiatives, 51 elementary and 15 secondary. Students participated in a variety of initiatives which engaged them in character based activities in areas such as leadership development, sports, theatre, environmental and anti-bullying.

Students from Connaught Public School, together with Principal Shelley Fehrman and Teacher Deb Mclean, provided an overview of their Mental Karate initiative. Mental Karate is a character based initiative whereby students work through journaling and reflection to the completion of identified character goals. Students shared their experiences and participation in the initiative. Principal Erin Lotherington, Teacher Tracy Garrett and students from Eastdale Secondary School provided an overview of their theatre production entitled “*Rumour Has It.*” The play which was a joint initiative between the school’s Safe School Council and the Drama Club deals with bullying issues and in particular the effects of cyberbullying.

The Board viewed a video clip which highlighted Student Involvement initiatives from a number of schools across the Board.

Trustees commended staff and students for supporting and participating in the excellent Student Involvement initiatives.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There were no reports.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no Board recess.

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

**Moved by MacKenzie Ceci
Seconded by Tara Lundy**

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated October 24, 2012, be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustee MacKenzie Ceci provided highlights of the meeting which included reports from Trustees, a United Way presentation, and a presentation by the Education Foundation of Niagara. Discussion also took place on proposed initiatives to be implemented by the Student Trustee Senate. Student Trustee Tara Lundy provided an overview of the recent Ontario Student Trustees' Association meeting noting that it was a great weekend, and the Student Trustees had an opportunity to participate in informative discussions and workshops on a variety of issues.

2. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

**“That the report of the Finance Committee dated October 29, 2012, be received;”
and**

“That, pending a further report to the Finance Committee, Agenda Item 1 *Video Surveillance & Electronic Access – Phase II*, be deferred to a special meeting of the Finance Committee on November 13, 2012;” and

“That Chapman Murray Associates Architects be appointed for the FDK renovations and addition projects at Quaker Road, A.K. Wigg, E.W. Farr and Steele Street Public Schools;” and

“That Raimondo & Associates Architects be appointed for the FDK renovations and addition projects at Smith and Caistor Central Public Schools;” and

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

“That Walterfedy be appointed Architect for the FDK renovations projects at John Marshall and Martha Cullimore Public Schools;” and

“That Macdonald Zuberec Ensslen Architects be appointed for the FDK renovations and additions projects at Applewood, Lockview, Prince Philip (St. Catharines) and Woodland Public Schools;” and

“That Macdonald Zuberec Ensslen Architects be appointed for the Science Labs updating project at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School;” and

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 13, 2012, be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Dalton Clark reported on the meeting of October 29th noting that the Committee reviewed the request for the appointment of architects for a number of renovation projects at various schools, including projects at twelve Year 5 Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten sites, as well as a project updating the Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School Science Labs. Trustee Clark also reported that the Committee discussed a report on the *Video Surveillance and Electronic Access – Phase II* project and subsequently deferred the matter to the November 13th meeting in order to receive and review more detailed information on the value added items submitted in the Request for Proposal of the second lowest bid.

Trustee Clark reported on the meeting of November 13th noting that the Committee reviewed the supplementary information on the value added items with respect to the bid submitted by Quinn Digital for the *Video Surveillance and Electronic Access – Phase II* project. The bid contained an additional estimated value of \$36,953 through their provision of an additional warranty on equipment previously installed as well as additional training services.

In response to a question from Trustee Fulford, Superintendent Weinberg confirmed that the Ministry of Education has approved funding for all twelve Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten projects.

3. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (SAL) COMMITTEE

**Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy**

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee dated November 7, 2012, be received.”

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS – continued:**REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (SAL) COMMITTEE**

Trustee Dave Schaubel reported that 21 cases were reviewed; 20 cases were approved by the Committee and one was deferred for further discussion. Trustee Schaubel commended the Committee members for their continued dedication to students.

4. VERBAL REPORT ON THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE

Trustee Barbara Ness noted that the Parent Involvement Conference was held at Eden High School on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, and a detailed report will follow at a later date. Trustee Ness thanked Eden High School for hosting the Conference, and she thanked all the organizers for their work in preparing for and hosting the conference. More than 600 attendees participated in a number of informative workshops. Trustee Clark added his thanks to everyone involved in presenting a successful conference with very informative workshops.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves expressed appreciation to the organizing Committee for all their work.

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) Renaming of Special Education Classes**

Assistant Superintendent Kelly Pisek reported that in consultation with Principals, teachers, and the Special Education Advisory Committee, it is being proposed that a number of Special Education classes be renamed to better reflect the programming and curriculum, as well as the inclusive philosophy of the Board. The Behavior and Multiple Exceptionality Classes will now be referred to as *Structured Strategies Programs*; the Elementary Special Needs Classes will now be referred to as *Fundamental Skills Programs*; and the Secondary Special Needs Classes will now be referred to as *Specialized School to Community Programs*.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session scheduled prior to the Board Meeting.

3. Correspondence and Communication

- (a) Correspondence from the school communities of Fort Erie Elementary School, General Vanier Public School, and Rose Seaton Public School requesting permission to initiate the process for renaming General Vanier Public School (in accordance with Policy A-9, Naming/Renaming of Schools).

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

“That the school communities of Fort Erie Elementary School, General Vanier Public School, and Rose Seaton Public School be authorized to initiate the process for renaming General Vanier Public School.”

CARRIED

- (b) Correspondence from Jodie Boverhof regarding Industrial Wind Turbine Projects

At Trustee Fulford’s request, Chair Maves referred the issue of wind turbine projects and their proximity to schools to the Program and Planning Committee for a report.

- (c) Correspondence from Renfrew County District School Board

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Chair Maves called for Trustee volunteers to participate in the upcoming Secondary and Elementary Principal and Vice-Principal interviews. By show of hands, Trustees Barnett, Fulford, Keddy, Ness, and Robinson volunteered to participate.
- (b) Trustee Barnett gave a reminder of the Education Foundation of Niagara’s Holiday Celebration being held on Saturday, November 24, 2012. Tickets are available by contacting the Education Foundation of Niagara at (905) 641-2929, Ext. 54103.

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

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:**5. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report**

Trustee Cheryl Keddy gave a reminder of the upcoming Public Education Symposium being held in Toronto on January 31 – February 2, 2013. Trustee Keddy also gave a reminder that the District School Board of Niagara is hosting an international summit on *Concussions in School Sport* on December 13 and 14, 2012 at the Hilton Hotel and Suites in Niagara Falls. The summit is aimed at secondary school teachers, coaches, referees, volunteers, administrators, and parents involved with students in sports of any kind and will provide awareness in the areas of Education, Prevention, and Rehabilitation.

6. Future Meetings

The revised calendar of December 2012 meetings was provided. The following revision was made to the November 2012 calendar of meetings:

November 27 Finance Committee - 5:00 p.m.

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

KEVIN MAVES, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer