



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**September 8, 2015**

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board:** Sue Barnett (Chair), Dale Robinson (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Ajandi, Helga Campbell, Lora Campbell, Diane Chase, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves, Dave Schaubel

**Student**

**Trustees:** Justin Dubé and Katelynn Hilborn

**Regrets:** Trustee Jonathan Fast

**Officials:** Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Paula MacKinnon, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, JoAnna Roberto, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Bujacz

**Recording**

**Secretary:** Christina Dero

**Technical**

**Support:** Linda Gonschior

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD**

**1. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent**

Chair Barnett called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m. and noted the absence of Trustee Fast.

Chair Barnett welcomed student trustees, Justin Dubé and Katelynn Hilborn.

Chair Barnett welcomed students, staff, and parents from Ferndale Public School who were in the gallery.

**COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued:****2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Chair Barnett reported that she, Vice-Chair Robinson and Trustee Helga Campbell declared a conflict of interest in Committee of the Whole (Private Session) with respect to an update on Negotiations.

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

Moved by Helga Campbell  
Seconded by Diane Chase

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

**CARRIED**

Moved by Diane Chase  
Seconded by Linda Crouch

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:49 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

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

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in remembrance of a Laura Secord Secondary School student who recently passed away.

**D. REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Ajandi opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD****1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Diane Chase  
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Linda Crouch  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 22, 2015, be confirmed as amended.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Crouch requested that the June 22, 2015 Board Meeting minutes be amended to show that a student trustee provided the reflective reading.

**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 Kevin Maves

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

**CARRIED**

**F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective:****(a) Recognition of Lori Forstinger, Breakfast Club Coordinator, Ferndale Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Lori Forstinger for her efforts and dedication to the Breakfast program at Ferndale Public School. Lori works tirelessly to coordinate several community volunteers who serve between 40-50 students a nutritious breakfast every morning during the school year.

Director Hoshizaki presented Lori Forstinger with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her extraordinary contributions to students.

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**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS - continued****(b) Director's Update to Trustees****i. Welcome Back to Students and Staff**

Director Hoshizaki thanked everyone at the DSBN, from teachers and administrators, to support staff, senior leaders and trustees for their commitment and dedication to student success!

**ii. DSBN Welcome Centre**

Prior to the start of school 124 new students were welcomed to the DSBN at DSBN's Welcome Centre. Between August 2014 and June 25, 2015, Welcome Centre staff welcomed 384 students to DSBN schools.

Sincere thanks to Brandie Lancione and staff for their excellent work and support of this important service to families new to Canada, Niagara and DSBN schools.

**iii. Young Leaders at Port Weller Public School**

This summer, two grade 6 students at Port Weller Public School, Hailey and Marin, decided that every child should be able to go back to school with a full pencil case.

They created a "pencil case drive" and to date have collected enough donations to fill over 100 pencil cases for DSBN students in need. Pencil cases will be dropped off at El McCulley, Lincoln Centennial, Prince of Wales and Connaught Public Schools this week.

**iv. Student Continues to Win Gold and Silver Records**

Trinity Tutti of Eastdale Secondary School experienced outstanding success over the summer at the Royal Canadian Legion's national track and field championship in August, winning three gold medals.

Trinity set national records in midget girls discus and midget girls shot put and was named female athlete of the meet at the National Track and Field championship at Ste. Therese, Quebec. Her third gold medal was in the hammer throw.

Congratulations Trinity!

**2. Educational Showcases****(a) Summer H.E.A.T, 2015**

Superintendent Dickson introduced the showcase that highlighted the Summer H.E.A.T. Program. He introduced Karen Leskiw-Janvary, Student

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**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS - continued**

Achievement Leader, and Jennifer Stewart, curriculum staff, and thanked all staff who took part in the program over the summer.

Karen Leskiw-Janvary and Jennifer Stewart presented an overview of the three week program, which focused on literacy, numeracy, and Aboriginal cultural learning, through a variety of learning activities. This summer 896 students, ranging from those entering JK through to students entering grade 4, participated in the program at one of twelve sites. A short video was played that captured some of the campers' experiences throughout the summer.

Additional information on the Summer H.E.A.T. Program is available at [www.dsbni.org/summerheat](http://www.dsbni.org/summerheat).

Trustee Helga Campbell thanked staff for their dedication to the program and recognized parents for their participation over the summer.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS****(a) Summer H.E.A.T, 2015**

Superintendent Dickson provided a summary of the program that continues to be a huge success. The Summer H.E.A.T. program received additional funding from the Ministry of Education this year and was expanded to include twelve sites. Superintendent Dickson highlighted programs and activities that increased parent engagement and explained that by offering the Summer H.E.A.T. program to students entering JK, the transition into school is easier and more familiar to them. At the end of Summer H.E.A.T., staff completed a summary page of each campers' learning and personal strengths throughout the program. This information was compiled and then shared with their home school in September, allowing teachers to have more information about their incoming students.

Superintendent Dickson thanked trustees and corporate sponsors for continued support of the program.

Trustee Keddy Scott acknowledged the positive impacts that Summer H.E.A.T. has on students.

**(b) Secondary Summer Learning Report**

Superintendent Courtois provided an overview and highlights of the 2015 summer programs offered at the District School Board of Niagara. This summer, over 2500 students from grades 7 to 12 participated in a variety of programs including:

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS - continued****(c) Secondary Summer Learning Report**

- “GR8 IN 8” Program
- Grade 8 Reach Ahead Credit Program
- Summer School New Credit Programs
- E-Learning New Credit Program
- Regular Cooperative Education Program & Online Work and Learn
- Summer Jobs for Youth Cooperative Education Program
- International Language Program
- EduTravel Program

Superintendent Courtois explained that while programs are not offered at every site, transportation is provided to every site.

**H. DELEGATIONS**

There were no Delegations.

**I. BOARD RECESS**

There was no Board recess.

**J. OLD BUSINESS****1. ACCOUNTS**

Moved by Helga Campell  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1568 to 1595, for the month of June and July 2015, totalling \$38,267,762.08, be received.”

**CARRIED**

**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) Facilities Projects Report**

On behalf of Superintendent Veld, Director Hoshizaki provided an update and highlights of the Facilities Projects Report. Director Hoshizaki identified construction, renovation, renewal, and planning projects undertaken throughout the 2014/15 year.

Trustee Helga Campbell recognized the contribution and hard work of staff throughout the summer and noted the amount of construction work being contracted out that is providing employment in the community.

Director Hoshizaki added that the DSBN spent \$47 million on construction in the past year.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

- a) Chair Barnett reminded the Board of the upcoming Parent Involvement Conference on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Online registration is available at [www.dsbns.org/pic](http://www.dsbns.org/pic).

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

There was no Trustee Communications.

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

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

Trustee Ajandi provided an update and highlights of the report as follows:

- The Child Care and Early Years Act was implemented last year and allows for a more flexible process for licensing shared spaces to support operators and school boards in building more collaborative relationships, better managing the use of shared spaces and relocation requests from year to year, working toward a more seamless day for children.

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

- OPSBA senior staff met with Ombudsman office staff in early August to discuss their oversight extension and talk about process, communications and the education sector.
- OPSBA made a submission regarding the Municipal Elections Act Review which included recommendations to close the gap between nomination date and election date, develop a standard nomination form, develop a clear and coordinated reporting of results structure that is done provincially, and further support more digital voting.
- The Community Hubs framework was released with many of OPSBA's suggestions and comments incorporated into the report.
- OPSBA has new professional development modules for trustees which can be found online at [www.ontarioschooltrustees.org](http://www.ontarioschooltrustees.org).
- A Summit on Children and Youth Mental Health will take place on April 7-8. Registration is now open.
- The Public Education Symposium will be held this year from January 28-30.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at [www.opsba.org](http://www.opsba.org)

**6. Future Meetings**

The calendar of September 2015 meetings was provided.

Vice-Chair Robinson clarified for Trustee Crouch that the next Ad Hoc Governance Committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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**SUE BARNETT, Chair**

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