



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

November 22, 2016

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

ATTENDANCE:

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

Student Trustees: Samir Alazzam and Karling Luciani

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, Stacy Veld, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Bujacz

Regrets: Trustee Sue Barnett

Recording Secretary: Christina Dero

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair Robinson opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee people.

2. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Robinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Robinson welcomed guests who were in the gallery.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued

Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Robinson noted the absence of Trustee Barnett.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott

Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

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

CARRIED

Moved by Kevin Maves

Seconded Jennifer Ajandi

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:39 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Prince Philip Public School (Niagara Falls) choir, via video.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Lora Campbell opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

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

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 25, 2016 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 Diane Chase
Seconded by Helga Campbell

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

CARRIED

Chair Robinson noted that during the Committee of the Whole private session, the Board accepted the retirement of Stevensville Public School Principal, Sandy Giancarlo. On behalf of the Board, Chair Robinson thanked Sandy Giancarlo for 27 years of service and wished him well in his retirement.

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective:****a) Recognition of Jack McPherson, Student, Harriet Tubman Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Harriett Tubman Public School student, and the Director of the Give Kids a Chance Disc Golf Tournament, Jack McPherson.

Upon discovering that he wasn’t old enough to participate in Mayor Walter Sendzik’s charity golf tournament, Jack decided to organize his own golf

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Director's Report and Recognition****Recognition of Jack McPherson, Student, Harriet Tubman Public School**

tournament to raise money for the United Way's After School Program and for Community Care of St. Catharines & Thorold. Jack presented his idea to Mayor Sendzik and Jack's Give Kids a Chance tournament was born. Instead of golf, kids aged 8 to 12 participated in a disc golf tournament held at the St. Catharines Disc Golf Club in Centennial Gardens.

Jack McPherson learned that golf tournaments have sponsors, so he started making presentations to local businesses. He soon had 26 sponsors for holes, t-shirts, and lunch. Jack was featured in a number of newspaper articles and had a lengthy interview on CKTB. The day was a big success and raised \$1600 for United Way and \$600 for Community Care.

Director Hoshizaki presented Jack McPherson with a token of the Board's appreciation for his extraordinary contributions.

b) Recognition of Bob Dunn, Manager of Projects and Maintenance, Facility Services Department

Director Hoshizaki recognized Bob Dunn, DSBN Manager of Projects and Maintenance, for helping to ensure that DSBN students continue to benefit from buildings that are safe, attractive and designed to support the needs of all learners.

Bob Dunn came to the DSBN in May of 2013, bringing with him over 25 years of experience in the construction industry. Since 2013, Bob has been an integral member of the DSBN team, helping to develop the business cases to secure over \$56 million dollars of funding from the Ontario Government.

Bob has completed the design, applications, and construction for:

- Harriet Tubman, Twenty Valley, and John Brant Public Schools
- The first secondary school built by the DSBN in over 40 years (Greater Fort Erie Secondary School)
- Three major additions at Crossroads, Forestview, and Wellington Heights Public Schools

Under Bob's watch, the DSBN has also completed over \$18 million dollars of full day kindergarten renovations at 39 schools, giving our youngest learners bright and engaging spaces to learn, share, and grow.

Bob Dunn was also instrumental in supporting the completion of the Walker Living Campus at Woodend. In particular, he worked closely with DSBN Specialist High Skills Major students and other partners on the design and construction of the project.

Director Hoshizaki presented Bob Dunn with a token of the Board's appreciation for his extraordinary contributions to students.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Director’s Report and Recognition****c) Recognition of Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw, Teacher, A.N. Myer Secondary School and Sarah Murdoch, Teacher, Westlane Secondary School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw and Sarah Murdoch who were recently awarded the most prestigious Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Knowing that teacher collaboration enhances student success in the classroom, Sarah and Elizabeth created a partnership to share ideas and create meaningful lessons for the grade 10 Canadian history course with a focus on active history while embedding the historical thinking concepts. In the process of restructuring the entire history course around essential inquiry questions, they decided to focus on engaging students and inspiring active citizenship by exploring indigenous issues in Canada.

Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw is an integral part of A.N. Myer Secondary School as an instructional leader and a staff advisor. Over the past two years, she has led the staff in the establishment of 'thinking' classrooms. Elizabeth is also the staff advisor for the A.N. Myer debating team, the LBGTQ group, and later this year, she is planning a student trip to Washington to learn about the history of the United States.

Sarah Murdoch is a well-respected program leader of Canadian and World Studies at Westlane Secondary School. In this role, she has shared her passion and expertise for her subject area in part by being on the curriculum writing team for the grade 10 academic “Creating Canada” textbook, the grade 10 applied course for e-Learning for Canadian History, and presents yearly at the Ontario social sciences conferences. Sarah's passion for learning also extends beyond the classroom as she challenges her students to put into practice what they have learned in class as the staff coordinator for Westlane's “What About Me” club along with being the staff advisor for Westlane's student council.

Director Hoshizaki presented Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw and Sarah Murdoch with a token of the Board’s appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to students.

d) Directors Update to Trustees**i. Community Matters at Simcoe Street Public School**

This summer, Simcoe Street Public School turned an unused storage area into a Community Family Room. The bright, welcoming room has a computer area for parents, a child play area, comfortable couches and seating, and even a small coffee counter.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Directors Update to Trustees****Community Matters at Simcoe Street Public School**

All fall, parents have been dropping in to take parenting classes, learn about nutrition, and make use of the computers, all while developing a great sense of community.

Simcoe Street Public School had their official "Community Family Room" opening on November 15 and the community came out to celebrate.

ii. DSBN's Field of Dreams

On Tuesday, November 15, 2016, DSBN staff and students celebrated the official launch of DSBN's Synthetic Turf Field & Track Initiative.

Students from schools across the region dressed in full athletic gear, walked the red carpet onto the recently installed turf field at Greater Fort Erie Secondary School. They listened and cheered as they learned that the Board is making a significant investment in the success of its students and is moving forward with the installation of four more turf fields at schools across the board.

A short video clip of the official DSBN Synthetic Turf Field & Track Initiative was shared with the Board.

iii. A Day of Learning

Over 900 secondary teachers, educational assistants, library technicians, principals, and vice principals participated in a system PD day on Friday, November 18, 2016.

Over 140 different learning opportunities were facilitated by DSBN teachers and support staff. They had a chance to choose from a wide variety of different sessions including: Indigenous Ways of Knowing in Science, STEAM Up Your Classroom, Spiralling Your Math Class, Creating a Thinking Classroom, Embedding LGBTQ perspectives, and Learning Disabilities in the Classroom - just to name a few! Staff learning also took place at both Niagara College sites, Brock University, Niagara Health Sciences, and while visiting a wide variety of local employers.

2. Educational Showcases**a) Leadership Matters at Port Weller Public School**

Superintendent Reimer Friesen introduced the showcase, which highlighted Port Weller's school-wide commitment to leadership.

Superintendent Reimer Friesen introduced students and staff from Port Weller Public School, as well as principal, Hilary Abbey. Hilary Abbey explained that the school's core belief is that leadership is about inspiring one another to see

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued

The potential and worth that lies within each of us. At Port Weller Public School, all staff and students are able to see themselves as leaders and practice their skills daily.

Ruby, a Port Weller Public School student, explained that by following Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, students have been given the information and strategies needed to become more confident and to be successful in school and in life. Ruby added that students are devoted to making Port Weller Public School a better place and that all students have the power to make a difference.

A parent representative spoke to the positive impact that the program is having on students and gave an example of how her son shows leadership at Port Weller Public School.

Port Weller Public School students who form "The Habits Band" shared an original song with the Board called "Begin with the End in Mind."

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**1. 2016/17 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) Report**

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

"That the Board receive the 2016/2017 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Report."

CARRIED

Director Hoshizaki introduced the report and outlined the purpose of the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA). Director Hoshizaki explained that the BIPSA includes key elements of the strategic plan and uses student data to help direct the work of the system.

Superintendent Roberto and Superintendent McGregor guided Trustees through the BIPSA, explained the data and highlighted strategies that have been successful in achieving student success.

Superintendent Roberto added that the DSNB has many supports in place, some of which include learning opportunities in the area of mathematics, mental health, special education, and First Nations, Métis and Inuit.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent McGregor explained that this is the second year that the Ontario Ministry of Education has been publishing graduation rates.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS**1. ACCOUNTS**

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Kevin Maves

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1794 to 1814, for the month of September 2016 totaling \$20,884,923.25 be received.”

CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated November 1, 2016 be received; and

“That the report of the Educational Research Committee of September 15, 2016 be received;” and

“That the First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) report be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the meeting, which included an educational research proposal presentation, and a First Nations, Métis and Inuit presentation from Student Achievement Leader, Paul Taylor and FNMI Consultant, Georgie Groat.

3. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Moved by Lora Campbell
Seconded by Linda Crouch

OLD BUSINESS – continued

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated November 2, 2016 be received.”

CARRIED

Superintendent Reimer Friesen reported on the Parent Involvement Committee Conference “Parent Power”, which was held on November 2, 2016 at Eden High School. Parents were able to select from 18 sessions ranging from technology and math to mental health and the new health curriculum.

The Parent Involvement Committee provided bussing to the conference for families living in southern Niagara, and in total, over 700 people were in attendance.

On behalf of the committee, Superintendent Reimer Friesen thanked the DSNB and the Ministry of Education Parents Reaching Out Grants for their financial support, and the students and staff at Eden High School for helping to make the event a success.

Vice Chair Chase commended the Parent Involvement Committee and PIC Chair, Lisa Mooney for their hard work in preparing and running the conference.

4. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

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

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated November 8, 2016 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Lora Campbell reported the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee reviewed and approved 23 cases.

5. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

**Moved by Karling Luciani
Seconded by Samir Alazzam**

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated November 15, 2016 be received.”

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS – continued

Student Trustee Luciani reported that the Student Trustee Senate has begun organizing a “Show Your Colours Walk” on May 6, 2017, in support of the “I Matter” initiative.

Student Trustee Alazzam reported that he and Student Trustee Luciani attended the Ontario Student Trustee Association meeting on November 17, 2016, where they had a chance to collaborate with Student Trustees from across the province. Student Trustee Alazzam thanked the Board for continuing to fund the Student Trustee program.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Student Trustee Luciani explained that Royal Bank is inspiring young Canadians to make a difference in their communities by giving them \$150 and asking them to do something great with through their “Let’s Make Canada’s 150th Anniversary Count” campaign. Student Trustee Luciani was recently chosen as a recipient and decided to create tissue box covers for schools that have positive messages on each side.

6. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Kevin Maves

Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 21, 2016 be received;” and

“That the Annual Report on Board Investments, as at August 31, 2016, be received;” and

“That the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus for the year ended August 31, 2016, be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustees received a handout prior to the start of the Board meeting.

Trustee Maves provided a brief summary of the report and commended Superintendent Veld and the Financial Services Team for their hard work.

7. REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the report of the Audit Committee dated November 21, 2016 be received;” and

OLD BUSINESS – continued**REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

“That the 2015-16 Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Ministry of Education be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustees received a handout prior to the start of the Board meeting.

Trustee Fast provided a brief summary of the report which included an update on the Regional Internal Audit and discussions on the Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Ministry of Education.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions asked of or by Board members.

L. NEW BUSINESS**1. Organization Meeting of the Board**

The Organization Meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, in accordance with Board By-Law F-6.

Chair Robinson explained that the purpose of the meeting is to elect the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of Board. Chair Robinson added that nominations are to be submitted to the Director of Education in accordance with By-Law F-6.

Trustee Fast indicated that he will not be in attendance on December 6, 2016.

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

There were no staff reports.

2. Trustee Information Session

Prior to the board meeting, Trustees attended a Q & A session with Director Hoshizaki.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**3. Correspondence and Communication****a) Correspondence to the Education Quality and Accountability Office:
re: Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test**

A copy of the letter that was sent to the Education Quality and Accountability Office can be found in the Board package.

**b) Correspondence to the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police
Services Board re: School Resource Officer Program**

A copy of the letter that was sent to the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board can be found in the Board package.

In response to a question by a Trustee, Chair Robinson clarified that the Education Quality and Accountability Office replied to the letter from the DSBN, stating that tests that were partially or wholly completed will be marked.

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- a) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that she attended the Central Public School Math Night for Parents on November 8, 2016.
- b) Trustee Lora Campbell reported that the EFN Beat the Braniacs Trivia Night raised \$17,000 and that these funds will be used to support DSBN students.
- c) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending the Valley Way Public School Remembrance Day Ceremony and added that the entire school took part in the ceremony in a meaningful way.
- d) Trustee Helga Campbell reported that she and Superintendent Roberto visited schools in the Niagara Falls area. Trustee Helga Campbell commented that the Community Welcome Room at Simcoe Street Public School and the Outdoor Learning Classroom at River View Public School are a great addition to the community.
- e) Vice Chair Chase reported attending the Caistor Central School Council meeting where discussions took place around the West Niagara Accommodation Review, school budget, and the BIPSA. Vice Chair Chase added that she would be attending the Gainsborough Public School Council meeting this week.
- f) Chair Robinson reported that she participated in School Travel Planning at Richmond Street Public School. School Travel Planning promotes communities working together so that students who live near the school can walk or cycle there. The City of Thorold quickly acted on deficiencies and recommendations made by the group. Schools who want to participate in the program can contact Lisa Gallant at Healthy Living Niagara.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued

- g) Chair Robinson noted that the November issue of the ASCD newsletter, The Trillium, features an article written by Director Hoshizaki about the DSBN Academy. Chair Robinson thanked Director Hoshizaki for sharing the story and added that she hopes it inspires others to do the same thing in their school boards.

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

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

Moved by Helga Campbell

Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That Trustee Diane Chase be appointed to serve as OPSBA Director for the 2016-2017 term and to hold the position of voting delegate for the annual general meeting and regional council meetings for the 2016-2017 term; and

That Trustee Jennifer Ajandi be appointed to serve as OPSBA Alternate Director for the 2016-2017 term and to hold the position of alternate voting delegate for the annual general meeting and regional council meetings for the 2016-2017 term.”

CARRIED

Trustee Ajandi provided a brief report of the OPSBA Central West Regional meeting held at the Walker Living Campus on October 29, 2016, and thanked Trustees who were in attendance.

Trustee Ajandi welcomed Vice Chair Chase as the newly appointed OPSBA Director for the 2016/17 term.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at www.opsba.org.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of December 2016 meetings was provided.

Add – West Niagara Secondary School Accommodation Review public meeting will be held on December 15, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Beamsville District Secondary School

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Kevin Maves**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

DALE ROBINSON, Chair

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