



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**November 26, 2013**

6:45 – 7:30 p.m. (Private Session)

7:30 – 11:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Student Trustees:** Tara Lundy and Courtney Steingart

**Regrets:** Trustee Cheryl Keddy

**Officials:** Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, JoAnna Roberto, John Stainsby, Stacy Veld, Joe Weinberg, Peter Doan, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Marian Lamb

**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 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.

**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 Barbara Ness  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Westlane Secondary School Choir, on video clip.

Chair Maves noted that Superintendent Jim Morgan will be the Acting Director at the meeting as part of the Director’s professional development initiative. Chair Maves welcomed and introduced Sue Mabee, newly appointed Supervisor of Planning.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Dave Schaubel opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded Barbara Ness**

**“That the Agenda be adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated November 12, 2013, be confirmed as submitted.”

**CARRIED**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

In response to Trustee Robinson’s question at the November 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, Acting Director Morgan updated the Trustees on the number of DSBN classrooms impacted by Ontario Regulation 274/12 (Teacher Hiring) this school year. Acting Director Morgan reported that as at November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 61 classrooms had 2 or more teachers, which affected 1,500 students. Acting Director Morgan added that number will increase as Occasional Teachers continue to seek positions with increased teaching time. A letter was previously sent to the Ministry of Education expressing the Board’s concerns with Ontario Regulation 274/12 and its impact on students.

**4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session)**

Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Dale Robinson

“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****(a) Recognition of Del Vanderburgh, Canadian Veteran and School Volunteer**

Acting Director Morgan recognized Del Vanderburgh, a 95 year old World War II Veteran, who has been visiting schools across the Region for the past 16 years, speaking to students and providing information and real life events about serving as a soldier in Europe during World War II. Mr. Vanderburgh enlisted in the Canadian Army on April 30, 1942, and

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Del Vanderburgh, Canadian Veteran and School Volunteer**

served from 1942-1946. His regiment served as part of the Airborne Infantry enforcements in Belgium, Germany, and Holland. Mr. Vanderburgh's regiment liberated the Town of Delden in the north east of Holland. The stories Mr. Vanderburgh tells serve as a reminder of the Canadian military's spirit, sacrifices and commitment to Canada and its citizens.

Director Hoshizaki presented Del Vanderburgh with a token of the Board's appreciation for his service to Canada, and the students.

Trustees applauded Mr. Vanderburgh for his service to Canada and for sharing his experiences with students.

**(b) Recognition of Linda Gonschior, Media Technician, School Support Services**

Acting Director Morgan recognized Linda Gonschior for her 30 years of service to the Board, including 15 years as an Audio Visual Technician at the St. Catharines Collegiate prior to assuming her current position. Linda's community involvement includes providing technical support for Garden City Productions and serving on the Board of Directors of the Australian Sheppard Rescue Group. Linda is also a published author of two novels.

Director Hoshizaki presented Linda Gonschior with a token of the Board's appreciation for her service and commitment to students, the Board, and her community.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended Del Vanderburgh and Linda Gonschior for their commitment to students and the community.

**(c) Director's Update to Trustees****i. First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Awareness Week**

This week, the DSBN is celebrating the traditions, perspectives and contributions of Aboriginal students during First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Awareness Week. A variety of events are taking place within the Board to educate students and staff about the historical and contemporary issues of Aboriginal people in Canada and to share the positive contributions made every day by FNMI people.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(c) Director's Update to Trustees****ii. Fort Erie Secondary School – Health and Wellness Workshops**

On Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, Fort Erie Secondary School hosted a series of free workshops to help students and parents incorporate all dimensions of health and wellness into their everyday lives. The free event initiated by the School Council featured sessions on mental health, good nutrition, and academic success. The event was made possible by the hard work and support of staff and students, and the DSBN Communications, IT and Printing Departments.

**iii. Niagara Region – Imagine Niagara Essay and Poster Contest**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Regional Municipality of Niagara issued a News Release announcing that at its November 21<sup>st</sup> Regional Council meeting, students were recognized for their participation in the Region's *Imagine Niagara Essay and Poster Contest*. Elementary students from across the Region were invited to create a poster showing what they believe Niagara could look like in 50 years, while secondary students were challenged to write a short essay outlining what they see as Niagara's future opportunities and challenges, and how they may be addressed. The Region announced the following winners:

Joshua Miller - Grade 6, Power Glen Public School  
Madison Ruddell - Grade 5, Princess Margaret Public School  
Cole Fast - Grade 12, Welland Centennial Secondary School  
Daley Good - Grade 9, E.L. Crossley Secondary School

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS****1. Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)**

Superintendent Dickson introduced Carrie Thwaites, DSBN Program Coordinator, and summarized her involvement with the Program over the past 7 years. Superintendent Dickson also introduced Jared, a student at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, who is currently participating in the OYAP Program, and Sarah, a graduate of Port Colborne High School, who participated in the Board's OYAP Program and is currently continuing the Apprenticeship Program at Niagara College.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS – continued:****1. Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)**

Ms. Thwaites provided an overview of how the Program is delivered to students and how it enables Grades 11 and 12 students to gain experience in an apprenticeship trade of potential career interest through a Cooperative Education Program. Ms. Thwaites also explained that in the Fall of 2010, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities implemented a secure data collection system which allows Boards and the Ministry to track student participation. A September 2013 Ministry report shows that the Board successfully engaged more students in the 2012-2013 OYAP Program than anticipated. Ms. Thwaites highlighted the factors which contribute to the success of the OYAP Program and noted that next steps include increasing awareness and empowering young women to pursue opportunities available through apprenticeships in the skilled trades and technologies career sectors. Ms. Thwaites reported that the Board's first event, "Your Future Starts Now! Empowering Young Women to Explore Skilled Trades and Technologies," was held with much success on November 14, 2013, and connected more than 230 female DSBN high school students with 21 mentors who are currently training and working in the four skilled trades and technologies sectors.

Students Jared and Sarah addressed the Board and shared the positive impact the OYAP Program has had on their learning and future career path. Jared thanked everyone who made it possible to participate in the program.

Trustees thanked the students for sharing their positive experiences, and thanked Board staff for contributing to the success of the Program which creates learning opportunities for students in skilled trades.

Trustee Clark added that in 2004 the Board decided to encourage and support Technical Education and to create learning opportunities for students in skilled trades. Since then, the Board's Technology Program has become highly respected and recognized throughout the Province. Trustee Clark commended Kevin Graham, Consultant – Technical and Experiential Learning, and his team for doing an outstanding job in delivering Technology Programs to students.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Ms. Thwaites and the students for their presentation. Chair Maves also commended the organizers of the "*Your Future Starts Now! Empowering Young Women to Explore Skilled Trades and Technologies*" Conference for presenting an excellent event for students.

Further detailed information on the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program is available through the Board's website at <http://www.dsbno.org>. (Go to "Students" and "Programs" for a link to the OYAP Program.)

**H. DELEGATIONS**

There were no Delegations.

**I. BOARD RECESS**

There was no Board recess.

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

Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1274 to 1288 for the month of October 2013, totalling \$16,757,297.00 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam

**“That the reports of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated November 7 and November 15, 2013, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the reports dated November 7, 2013, and November 15, 2013, noting that 14 cases were reviewed at the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and 9 cases were reviewed at the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Trustee Schaubel commended students and parents for their participation, and the Supervised Alternative Learning Team who work diligently to support students.

**3. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Moved by Ed Fulford  
Seconded by Barbara Ness

**“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated November 12, 2013, be received;” and**

**“That the report of the Educational Research Committee be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Fulford provided a summary of the report noting that 3 Research projects were reviewed by the Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****4. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

**Moved by Tara Lundy  
Seconded by Courtney Steingart**

**“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated November 20, 2013, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Lundy and Steingart provided a summary of the report which included a presentation by Nancy Bridgeman, DSBN Consultant - Curriculum, Science and Environmental Education, on the issue of waste reduction. Cheryl Bechard-Howe, DSBN Social Worker, gave a presentation on how anxiety affects students.

**5. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (handout at meeting)**

**Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

**“That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 26, 2013, be received and the recommendations adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Clark provided a summary of the report and the recommended motions, noting that the Committee reviewed reports on the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus (ending August 31, 2013), and International Education (2012-2013). Trustee Clark provided highlights of the 2012-2013 year end operating revenues and expenditures and highlights of accumulated surplus funds appropriated for future expenditures. Trustee Clark also provided highlights of the International Education Financial Report. Trustee Clark added that International Education has become an important initiative of the Board as it provides Foreign Students access to Ontario Curriculum learning opportunities and generates revenue for our Board. Trustee Clark explained that the Board previously approved that 70% of net surplus revenue from International Education would be made available to fund one-time DSBN strategic initiatives in the following year.

Trustee Bradnam commended Senior staff and the Finance Committee for their leadership and financial stewardship.

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

No questions were asked of and by Board members.



**L. NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Maves gave notice of the Organization Meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Chair Maves also gave notice of recommended revisions to the Board's By-Laws to amend the start times of the Board meetings.

**1. Organization Board Meeting**

The Organization Meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., in accordance with Board By-Law F-6, which states:

**By-Law F-6**

- i) The Secretary of the Board shall receive written nominations of members of the Board for the position of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- ii) Nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary from December 1<sup>st</sup> until 12:00 noon on the day of the Organizational Meeting (December 10, 2013) and may be submitted only by members of the Board.

**2. Notice to Change Board By-Laws G-1, G-3, and J-1**

In accordance with Board By-Law Q-2 notice is given that at the December 10, 2013, Board meeting the following recommended motions will be brought forward for consideration by the Trustees.

**“That the Board By-Law G-1 be amended as follows:**

The regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month between September and June, save and except for the months of March and December when there will only be one regular Board meeting, and save and except for the month of June when the regular meeting of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday and the fourth Monday of the month. Should any Tuesday or Monday fall on a statutory or civic holiday, the Board shall meet on the evening of the following day at the same hour, or as otherwise decided by the Board. **Committee of the Whole shall commence at 6:15 p.m. and the regular Board meeting, public session, shall commence at 7:00 p.m.”**

**“That the Board By-Law G-3 be amended as follows:**

In the event of weather conditions which, in the judgment of the Chairperson, preclude the regular meeting of the Board, the meeting will be held on the next following Tuesday, with **Committee of the Whole commencing at 6:15 p.m. and the regular Board meeting, public session, commencing at 7:00 p.m.”**

**NEW BUSINESS – continued:****2. Notice to Change Board By-Laws G-1, G-3, and J-1**

**“That the Board By-Law J-1 be amended as follows:**

In each municipal election year, the Inaugural Meeting of the Board shall be held on the first Board meeting in December following the Organization Meeting, **at the hour of 6:15 p.m. for Committee of the Whole and 7:00 p.m. for the regular Board meeting, public session**, unless otherwise determined by Board motion.”

**M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS****1. Staff Reports****(a) Naming of the French Immersion Elementary School in St. Catharines**

Superintendent Kelly Pisek reported on the process to name the new French Immersion Elementary School located at 91 Bunting Road, St. Catharines (the former Kernahan Park Secondary School site), in accordance with Board Policy A-9: Naming/Renaming of Schools. Renovations at 91 Bunting Road are expected to be complete for September 2014. Superintendent Pisek set out the criteria, Committee composition, and the consultation process and she reported that following the consultation process the Committee made the following recommendations.

“That the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choices as determined by the New School Naming Committee be received and that the Trustees vote by ballot to choose the name for the new French Immersion Elementary School.”

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jeanne Sauvé Public School
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gabrielle Roy Public School
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sir Wilfred Laurier Public School

Superintendent Pisek briefly spoke to the significance of the proposed names. Superintendent Pisek thanked the Committee for their collaborative decision making and for providing the Trustees with three names that recognize very prominent Canadians whose contributions and accomplishments helped shape our great country.

Marian Lamb, Executive Assistant to the Director, distributed the ballots to the Trustees and Chair Maves appointed Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, and Stacy Veld, Assistant Superintendent of Business, as Scrutineers. Prior to voting, Brenda Stokes Verworn reminded the Trustees that the name selection must be a clear majority vote.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:****1. Staff Reports****(a) Naming of the French Immersion Elementary School in St. Catharines**

Following a vote by ballot, which were collected and counted by the Scrutineers, Chair Maves reported that the Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the name **Jeanne Sauvé Public School**.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the Naming Committee for their participation.

**MOTION**

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

**“That the new French Immersion Elementary School located at 91 Bunting Road, St. Catharines, be named Jeanne Sauvé Public School, effective November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013.”**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION**

**Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

**“That the ballots be destroyed.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

There was no correspondence and communication.

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

- (a) Vice-Chair Barnett commended Director Hoshizaki for contributing his comments and perspectives on education in a recent Provincial publication.
- (b) Trustee Schaubel reported that he recently attended Peace Bridge Public School where the Royal Bank presented the school with a \$40,000 donation for After School Programs. Trustee Schaubel thanked the Royal Bank for its support of students and he commended school staff for doing a great job on behalf of students.
- (c) Trustee Robinson commended Board staff responsible for keeping our schools in outstanding condition. Trustee Robinson added that she has visited many schools this school year and all schools are well maintained and give positive impressions.
- (d) Vice-Chair Barnett thanked the Welland Tribune for its continued recognition of activities taking place in schools. Recently, the Girls and Boys Basketball Teams were recognized for their participation in the OFSAA championships, as well as Glendale Public School students who participated in a fundraiser to support food banks in the City of Welland.
- (e) Chair Maves reported that on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, he and Trustee Keddy attended a Citizenship Ceremony at Vineland Public School where 33 new Canadians were sworn in. Chair Maves added that the Citizenship Judge was very complimentary of the District School Board of Niagara.
- (f) Chair Maves thanked everyone who attended the recent Education Foundation of Niagara Holiday Celebration Gala.
- (g) Chair Maves reported that the A.N. Myer Secondary School Junior Football team will be playing in Toronto tomorrow for the Provincial championship.
- (h) Superintendent Stainsby provided a sports update, as follows:
  - Eden High School Flyers Senior Boys Volleyball Team recently won its 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive OFSAA AA Gold Medal;
  - Governor Simcoe Secondary School Boys Volleyball Team participated in the OFSAA AAA championships;
  - Port Colborne High School Girls Basketball Team participated in the OSFAA A championships;
  - Welland Centennial Secondary School Girls Basketball Team participated in the OSFAA AA championship

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:**

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

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

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

Chair Maves noted that Trustee Keddy will provide a report at a future meeting, including an update on an OPSBA survey.

Further information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at <http://www.opsba.org>.

**6. Future Meetings**

A revised calendar of December 2013 meetings was provided.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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