



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**April 22, 2014**

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

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

**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, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Bujacz

**Recording Secretary:** Irene Foster

**Technical Support:** Wendy Coit, Linda Gonschior, and Philip Ihewuokwu

**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 7:00 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 Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

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

**CARRIED**

**Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Dale Robinson**

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:25 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by Jessica Wilson, Welland Centennial Secondary School.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Jessica for her performance.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Lora Campbell opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Moved by Barbara Ness  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott**

**“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 April 8, 2014, be confirmed as submitted.”**

**CARRIED**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- (a) Response to Questions from the April 8, 2014, Board Meeting: Regarding the Accommodation Review of West Fort Erie Elementary Schools

Superintendent Stainsby reported that following the April 8, 2014, Board meeting staff contacted the Mayor’s Office of the Town of Fort Erie and subsequently met with the Town’s Planning staff to discuss the Accommodation Review reports and to explain the process pending the decision of Trustees at the June 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- (b) Response to Questions from the April 8, 2014, Board Meeting: Regarding the Accommodation Review of Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools

Superintendent Stainsby provided responses to questions of clarification submitted by Trustees and C.A.R.E. members following the April 8, 2014, Board Meeting. Trustees were provided with a handout showing Parliament Oak Class Organization 2014-2015 (based on current enrolment), and the Proposed Boundary District for the Consolidation of Crossroads and Parliament Oak Schools.

**JK Enrolment at Parliament Oak Public School**

Superintendent Stainsby stated that the current JK enrolment at Parliament Oak Public School for September 2014 is 11 students.

**Play Space at Crossroads Public School**

Superintendent Stainsby responded to a question regarding play space and percentage of asphalt. Superintendent Stainsby explained that at Crossroads, Grades 4-8 use the play area for the first half of the break and Grades K-3 use the space for the second half of the break. This organization allows plenty of space for all the students during each break.

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:****Business Arising From the Minutes**

- (b) Response to Questions from the April 8, 2014, Board Meeting: Regarding the Accommodation Review of Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools

**Lockers, Cost of Moving the Current Play Space Equipment, Parking**

Superintendent Stainsby explained that these issues would be addressed by a Transition Team once a decision is made by the Trustees. A number of options are available and the Transition Team would work with everyone in a collaborative manner. Superintendent Stainsby added that the successful transition of students is described in the Board's Accommodation Review Policy F-2.

**Accessibility**

Superintendent Stainsby explained that the Board is committed to ensure equity and inclusivity for all of our students, staff, parents, volunteers, and community members and that it is well on its way to having fully accessible facilities. This vision is supported by leaders such as Governor General David Onley and it reflects Ontario's commitment to have a barrier free Ontario by 2025. Superintendent Stainsby added that the inclusion of accessibility costs in the Senior Administration report reflects the commitment to making all of our schools fully accessible.

**Elementary Student Population – Niagara-on-the-Lake**

Superintendent Stainsby reported that the current DSBN elementary student population in Niagara-on-the-Lake is 832 students. Superintendent Stainsby added that given the population distribution of Niagara-on-the-Lake, as well as the families' educational choices to date, two vibrant elementary schools would meet the educational, planning, and transportation needs of the community.

**Glendale Development**

Superintendent Stainsby reported that there are currently 51 students attending St. Davids Public School from the Glendale area. St. Davids currently has space for 72 additional students. Superintendent Stainsby added that while future developments have been proposed for Glendale, there is no guarantee that these developments will occur.

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:****Business Arising From the Minutes**

- (b) Response to Questions from the April 8, 2014, Board Meeting:  
Regarding the Accommodation Review of Niagara-on-the-Lake  
Elementary Schools

**Parliament Oak Enrolment and Organization for September 2014-2015**

Superintendent Morgan referenced the handout provided to Trustees noting that the preliminary organization is based on the school's current numbers progressing through each grade for a total enrolment of 112. French Immersion students (17) are included in the total enrolment but kept separate in the configuration. Superintendent Morgan added that final staffing decisions and organization will be determined in September.

In response to C.A.R.E.'s proposal that if Parliament Oak fails to exceed DSNB projections by 20% by 2018 they would support closing the school, Superintendent Morgan noted that the current projections for 2018 is 95 students. Superintendent Morgan explained that an additional 20% is 19 students for a total enrolment of 114, which is still inadequate for optimum student programming and facility utilization.

There were no questions of clarification.

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

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

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

**CARRIED**

Chair Maves reported that in Committee of the Whole the Trustees accepted the retirement of John Stainsby, Superintendent of Schools, effective August 31, 2014. On behalf of the Board Chair Maves commended Superintendent Stainsby for his 35 years of dedication to public education and wished him well in his retirement.

**F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Heather Bove, Human Resources Staffing Manager, and Natalie Ceglie, Human Resources Assistant – Teaching Staff**

On behalf of the Board and Elementary and Secondary School Administrators, Director Hoshizaki recognized Heather Bove and Natalie Ceglie for their outstanding support and management of the entire teaching process cycle. Each stage of the staffing cycle involves numerous complexities including implementing legislative requirements. Both Heather and Natalie are experts at helping Administrators navigate the processes in order to achieve the best results. Heather and Natalie dedicate many late nights and weekends into the staffing cycle and the DSNB is fortunate to have these two employees who go above and beyond to make extraordinary contributions.

Director Hoshizaki presented Heather Bove and Natalie Ceglie with a token of the Board's appreciation for their dedication and contributions.

**(b) Director's Update to Trustees****i. Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School Students Honoured by the Vimy Foundation**

Two Sir Winston Churchill students have been recognized by The Vimy Foundation for participating in the *Beaverbrook Vimy Prize* competition. The *Beaverbrook Vimy Prize* is awarded on the basis of the students' essay submissions and interviews. Daniel Mateus is a recipient of this prestigious award and he will be travelling to Europe this summer to take part in an intensive and rewarding scholarship program with other participants from Canada, the United Kingdom and France. Rachel Bannerman was recognized by The Vimy Foundation for her superior submissions to the Committee.

**ii. Canada's Future Leaders**

Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School student, Varsha Jayasankar, is highlighted in a special report in MacLean's Magazine entitled, "*Canada's Future Leaders*." Of the 12 students recognized, Varsha is one of four secondary school students, with the other eight being university students. Varsha is recognized for her years of work and research, and eventual development of a powerful extract of mango ginger in the fight against antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Varsha's work has earned

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(b) Director’s Update to Trustees****ii. Canada’s Future Leaders**

her a 2013 Manning Innovation Achievement Award and the gold medal at the 2013 Canada-Wide Science Fair. This May, Varsha will represent Canada at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles, the world’s biggest pre-College Science competition.

**2. Educational Showcase****(a) Edith Cavell Public School – “Stacking Skills”**

Superintendent John Dickson introduced the showcase.

Teacher Sue Yetman introduced a video which highlighted a “Sport Stacking” event where students from around the world competed in the sport of Stacking. Sport Stacking is a sport of fitness, agility, concentration and quickness which involves stacking specialized plastic cups in specific sequences in as little time as possible. Teacher Yetman thanked the Education Foundation of Niagara for approving the school’s request for funds to purchase sport stacking gear.

Grades 5 and 6 students from Edith Cavell Public School, St. Catharines, demonstrated their “Stacking Skills.”

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the students for demonstrating their skills.

**(b) March Music Madness Contest**

Superintendent John Stainsby introduced Welland Centennial Secondary School Teacher Iraina Neufeld and students Jessica Wilson and Derrick Thibault.

Teacher Iraina Neufeld recognized Jessica Wilson, winner of Ryan Seacrest’s March Music Madness Contest for the best cover of Pitbull’s “Timber.” Ms. Neufeld spoke about Jessica’s talent and she highlighted her musical accomplishments and endeavours.

Ms. Neufeld introduced Jessica Wilson and Derrick Thibault who performed a song from the school’s upcoming musical, West Side Story.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****2. Educational Showcase****(b) March Music Madness Contest**

Vice-Chair Barnett commended Welland Centennial Secondary School for its strong Arts Program. Trustee Bradnam encouraged Jessica and Derrick to keep singing and sharing their talent.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the students for their performance.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS****(a) School Support Initiative (SSI) Update**

Superintendent Helen McGregor provided a verbal update on the School Support Initiative (SSI). Superintendent McGregor explained that the SSI initiative started as an intervention initiative focused on improving the pass rate in Applied courses in Grades 9 and 10, including English, Math, Science, Geography and History. During the current school year the Ministry of Expansion expanded the funding to include thirteen schools. With Board funding, the initiative was expanded to include two additional sites in Semester 2. Across the Province there are currently 168 schools in 25 School Boards involved in this important work. Superintendent McGregor explained the process and the steps taken to implement the initiative and to determine the impact on student learning. Superintendent McGregor presented the Semester 1 results for the 13 SSI DSBN Schools which shows positive outcomes.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Superintendent McGregor for the report.

**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 Lora Campbell

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1353 to 1364 for the month of March 2014, totalling \$15,993,802.14 be received.”

**CARRIED**

**2. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Dale Robinson

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated April 2, 2014, be received.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Robinson provided a summary of the report which included discussion on the purpose, mandate and direction of the Parent Involvement Committee. Discussion also took place on planning for the November 5, 2014, PIC Fall Conference.

**3. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated April 10, 2014, be received.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Keddy Scott provided a summary of the report which included a student's presentation of his Bubble Wrap Art. The DSBN Special Olympics event is scheduled for June 11, 2014. The next meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee will be held on May 14 at the St. Catharines Collegiate where Dr. Stan Kutcher will give a presentation on Child and Youth Mental Health.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****4. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (handout)**

Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated April 22, 2014, be received and the recommendations adopted.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Clark provided a summary of the report which included discussion on awarding contracts for Year 5 Full-Day Kindergarten renovations at Steele Street Public School, A.K. Wigg Public School, and E.W. Farr Public School. The Committee made the following recommendations:

“That the low bid received from Serianni Construction in the amount of \$206,225 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the Year 5 FDK Renovations at Steele Street Public School.”

“That the low bid received from Serianni Construction in the amount of \$408,450 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the Year 5 FDK Renovations at A.K. Wigg and E.W. Farr Public Schools.”

**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**

Superintendent Stainsby thanked all of those involved in the Accommodation Review Processes over the past ten months and he acknowledged them for their time taken to prepare reports and make presentations.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****1. Staff Reports**

Superintendent Stainsby reminded the Board that at the June 12, 2013, Board meeting the Trustees approved the Facility Planning Report which included the following Accommodation Reviews:

- North St. Catharines Elementary Schools (Meadowvale and Sheridan Park)
- Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools (Crossroads and Parliament Oak)
- West Fort Erie Elementary Schools (Bertie, Crystal Beach and Ridgeway)

**(a) Deliberations on the 2013/2014 North St. Catharines Elementary Schools Accommodation Review**

Superintendent Stainsby provided a brief overview of the process and timelines for the North St. Catharines Elementary Schools Accommodation Review which began on September 19, 2013. Superintendent Stainsby added that at the February 11, 2014, Board Meeting Trustees received the Accommodation Review Committee Report and the Report of Senior Administration on the Accommodation Review of North St. Catharines Elementary Schools. In accordance with Ministry of Education guidelines Trustees subsequently had an opportunity to review all data and correspondence compiled throughout the Accommodation Review process.

**Moved by Dale Robinson  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

**“That Meadowvale Public School be closed for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2014, and that students be redirected to Sheridan Park Public School; and**

**“That the new boundary for Sheridan Park Public School become effective as of June 30, 2014.”**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Robinson spoke to the recommended motion. Trustee Robinson thanked everyone involved in the Accommodation Review process and commended them for their enthusiasm and focus on what is best for students. Trustee Robinson expressed her position on the recommended motion and provided her rationale and reasons in support of her position.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****1. Staff Reports****(a) Deliberations on the 2013/2014 North St. Catharines Elementary Schools Accommodation Review**

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 provided their rationale and reasons in support of their position.

Trustee Robinson requested a recorded vote.

Chair Maves called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked everyone involved for their work and input throughout the Accommodation Review process.

**(b) Deliberations on the 2013/2014 Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review**

Superintendent Stainsby provided a brief overview of the process and timelines for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review which began on September 18, 2013. Superintendent Stainsby added that at the February 11, 2014, Board Meeting Trustees received the Accommodation Review Committee Report and the Report of Senior Administration on the Accommodation Review of Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools. In accordance with Ministry of Education guidelines Trustees subsequently had an opportunity to review all data and correspondence compiled throughout the Accommodation Review process.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****1. Staff Reports****(b) Deliberations on the 2013/2014 Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review**

**Moved by Barbara Ness  
Seconded by Dalton Clark**

**“That Parliament Oak Public School be closed for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2015, and that students be redirected to Crossroads Public School; and**

**“That the new boundary for Crossroads Public School become effective as of June 30, 2015; and**

**“That a new four classroom addition be constructed on the Crossroads Public School Site to be completed by September 1, 2015.”**

**CARRIED**

The motion carried in support by a recorded vote of 8-2)

Trustee Ness spoke to the recommended motion. Trustee Ness thanked everyone involved in the Accommodation Review process and commended them for their focus on what is in the best interest of students. Trustee Ness expressed her position on the recommended motion and provided her rationale and reasons in support of her position.

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.

Trustee Ness requested a recorded vote.

Chair Maves called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried by a vote of 8-2.

Vice-Chair Barnett	In Support	Trustee Fulford	In Support
Trustee Bradnam	Against	Trustee Keddy Scott	In Support
Trustee Campbell	In Support	Trustee Ness	In Support
Trustee Clark	In Support	Trustee Robinson	In Support
Trustee Fast	Against	Trustee Schaubel	In Support

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****1. Staff Reports****(b) Deliberations on the 2013/2014 Niagara-on-the-Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review**

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked everyone involved for their work and input throughout the Accommodation Review process, including community members and C.A.R.E. for their submissions. Chair Maves added that next steps include moving forward with a Transition Team in the best interests of students.

A community member in the gallery spoke out in a disrespectful manner. Chair Maves cautioned Mr. Miele regarding his demeanour.

**BOARD RECESS**

**Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

**“That the Board recess.”**

**CARRIED**

**The Board recessed at 8:50 p.m.**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 9:00 p.m.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication****(a) Correspondence from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake regarding Parliament Oak Public School**

Chair Maves noted the correspondence is for information purposes and it will be considered during the Transition process.

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

- (a) Vice-Chair Barnett recognized Student Trustees Lundy and Steingart for being accepted to University in the Fall. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves extended congratulations.
- (b) Trustee Keddy Scott gave a reminder of the 2014 Prom Project happening on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Keddy Scott noted there is a need for men's apparel such as neckties and white shirts.
- (c) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that to date, 28 names have been submitted for the new Vineland Public School.
- (d) Trustee Bradnam reported that he and Trustee Campbell attended the Earth Day Assembly at Crossroads Public School where funding from the *Friends of TD* was announced. The well organized Assembly included speakers who promoted the outdoor teaching area to be located at the back of the school. Each student was provided with a potted spruce tree to take home.
- (e) Trustee Bradnam gave a reminder of the Special Education Advisory Committee's meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> (7:00 p.m.) at the St. Catharines Collegiate with guest speaker Dr. Stan Kutcher, an internationally renowned expert in the area of child and adolescent mental health.
- (f) Trustee Fulford gave a reminder of W.E. Brown Public School's upcoming Fun Fair and Open House events in early May.

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 Keddy Scott reported that the Central West Region meeting was held on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> in Brantford which included discussion on Aboriginal issues.

Trustee Keddy Scott read the following preamble:

Whereas the District School Board of Niagara sees the adoption of the Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education as a proactive measure that is inclusive of the strengths of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples and the value First Nation, Métis and Inuit people place on the education of their children.

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

Trustee Keddy Scott highlighted the initiatives implemented by our Board which support Aboriginal students, including Completing the Circle; After School Secondary School Programs, and First Nations Tutors in the Classrooms.

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

**“That the District School Board of Niagara endorses the Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education which was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA).”**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Keddy Scott clarified for Vice-Chair Barnett that the motion does not contravene Board Policy.

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

**6. Future Meetings**

The revised calendar of May 2014 meetings was provided and amended as follows:

May 2            Silver Birch Literacy Conference at Club Roma – 8:45 a.m.

Trustee Clark noted that Finance Committee meetings will commence at 6:00 p.m. unless amended.



**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

---

**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

---

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