



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**February 11, 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, Jonathan Fast, Ed Fulford, Cheryl Keddy, Barbara Ness, Dale Robinson, Dave Schaubel

**Student  
Trustees:** Tara Lundy

**Regrets:** Trustee Dalton Clark, Student Trustee 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, Marian Lamb

**Recording  
Secretary:** Irene Foster

**Technical  
Support:** Linda Gonschior

**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 Ed Fulford  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam**

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

**CARRIED**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:35 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Beamsville District Secondary School Brass Ensemble, on video clip.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Cheryl Keddy opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

**“That the Agenda be adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Ed Fulford  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated January 28, 2014, 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 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 Angelo Cimino, Head Caretaker at Vineland Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Angelo Cimino for his 10 years of service to the Board in his role of Caretaker. Angelo is known for the pride he takes in maintaining Vineland Public School, and for his great attitude, particularly through the last summer as Vineland consolidated with three other schools. Throughout the summer, Angelo persevered and completed everything required for school opening in September all the while retaining his great sense of humour. Angelo will continue to be a key player as Vineland School prepares for construction of the new school this Spring.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Angelo Cimino, Head Caretaker at Vineland Public School**

Director Hoshizaki presented Angelo Cimino with a token of the Board’s appreciation for his dedication to his work and for his positive attitude.

Trustee Keddy commended Angelo Cimino on a well deserved recognition of his dedication to Vineland Public School and the Board

**(b) Director’s Update to Trustees****i. Princess Margaret (Niagara Falls) Students Win!**

On January 18, 2014, the Princess Margaret “Pantherbots” won “*The Most Innovative Solution*” award for their “Faucetbot” at the First Lego League Provincial Robotic Championships held at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology in Oshawa. The team presented their natural disaster solution and robot to four different sets of judges who declared them winners. The team members and teachers are commended for dedicating countless hours of weekend time to create their presentation and program their robot. Congratulations on this outstanding success.

**ii. Briardale (St. Catharines) Students Skype in the Classroom**

Students at Briardale Public School have had tremendous fun and learning using Skype as a learning tool. Teacher Lori Moccio tailored a topic on *Skype in the Classroom* entitled, “Exploring Oceans,” to allow students to study Characteristics and Needs of Living Things. Students interacted with several speakers and scientists via Skype and posted their questions about dolphins and sharks. Log on to [www.huffingtonpost.com/heather-heenehan/the-power-of-skype-to-ins b 4549678.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/heather-heenehan/the-power-of-skype-to-ins-b-4549678.html) to read the blog. Congratulations to the teacher and her students for finding innovative ways to use technology in the classroom and enhance student learning.

**iii. Kindergarten Open Houses**

Director Hoshizaki commended all elementary schools for hosting successful Kindergarten Open Houses this past week and for making parents welcome. Director Hoshizaki added that by September 2014 all elementary schools in the DSBN will offer full day learning.

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

- iv. Director Hoshizaki informed the Trustees that Horizon Utilities has reported that out of over 200 energy savings projects, Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School’s project is the 15<sup>th</sup> highest in energy savings.

**2. Educational Showcase****(a) Young Moms Program**

Superintendent McGregor introduced the showcase noting that the Young Moms Outreach Program which began in 1998 continues to meet the social and academic needs of teen Moms at three centres across the region. Superintendent McGregor recognized the Adolescent and Family Support Services Niagara (AFSSN) who provide day care at no cost to enable the moms to attend.

Tracy Sacco, Administrator – Alternative Education Programs, introduced Teacher Devina Rehki, and Tatjana Lavoie, an outstanding student who hopes to achieve her goal of attending College in the Fall of 2014.

Tatjana Lavoie, a former Welland Centennial Secondary School student who is currently in the Young Moms Outreach Program, highlighted her personal and educational experiences. Tatjana expressed her gratitude for the opportunities provided by AFSSN and the Young Moms Program which are enabling her to reach her goals.

Vice-Chair Barnett commended the Board for supporting programs which provide students with opportunities to reach their goals. Vice-Chair Barnett also commended parents and staff for their support.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Tatjana for sharing her experiences.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**

There was no report.

**H. DELEGATIONS**

There were no Delegations.

**I. BOARD RECESS**

There was no Board recess.

**J. OLD BUSINESS****1. 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 February 4, 2014, be received;” and**

**“That the Program and Planning Committee endorse the plan of French Immersion Grades 1-8 being offered at Central Public School and that the English Program boundary for Central be incorporated into the Lakeview boundary for September 2014;” and**

**“That the report for Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars, 2014-2015, be received and approved for submission to the Ministry of Education by March 1, 2014.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Fulford presented a summary of the report and recommended motions and he noted that further input on French Immersion will be sought from parents. Trustee Keddy added that a community forum is scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> and that feedback will be brought forward to the Program and Planning Committee for further discussion.

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

No questions were asked of and by Board members.

**L. NEW BUSINESS****Accommodation Reviews**

Chair Maves reminded the Board and the gallery that the presentation of the Accommodation Review Reports this evening is for the purpose of Trustees being provided with a copy of the Reports for their review. The deliberation process of the recommended motions by Trustees will take place at a later date.

Superintendent of Secondary Schools and Planning John Stainsby thanked staff, parents and community members for participating in the Accommodation Review process. Superintendent Stainsby added that the Accommodation Review process was facilitated by former Superintendent Sue Mark with assistance from former Superintendent of Planning Cam Hathaway.

**NEW BUSINESS – continued:**

- (a) **Report of the Accommodation Review Committee of Meadowvale and Sheridan Park Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

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

**“That the Final Report and Recommendations of the North St. Catharines Elementary Schools Accommodation Review Committee and its attachments be received by the Board.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Stainsby introduced former Superintendent Sue Mark who presented a verbal overview of the Final Report and Recommendations of the North St. Catharines Elementary Schools Accommodation Review Committee. Sue Mark’s overview included information on the following:

- Membership of the Accommodation Review Committee;
- Accommodation Review process;
- School Program;
- School Facilities;
- Demographics and Housing;
- Findings and Recommendations of the Accommodation Review Committee;
- School Valuation for North St. Catharines Elementary Schools based on recommendations.

Sue Mark added that the Final Report also includes an overview of the Accommodation Review Committee meetings and Public meetings.

There were no questions of clarification from Trustees.

- (b) **Report of Senior Administration on the 2013/14 Accommodation Review of Meadowvale and Sheridan Park Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

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

**“That the Board receives the report of Senior Administration on the Accommodation Review of North St. Catharines Elementary Schools.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Stainsby introduced Superintendent Wes Hahn who presented a verbal overview of the Report of Senior Administration of the North St. Catharines Elementary Schools Accommodation Review.

**NEW BUSINESS – continued:****(b) Report of Senior Administration on the 2013/14 Accommodation Review of Meadowvale and Sheridan Park Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

Superintendent Hahn's overview provided information on the following:

- Background - including Declining Enrolment in the DSBN, Aging Facilities, Provincial Funding, Programming, School Size: What Research Reveals;
- Rationale for the Senior Administration recommendation, ("*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.*");
- Implementation of the Senior Administration recommendation, if approved by the Board.

Superintendent Morgan clarified for Trustee Fulford that staffing costs associated with any increase in administrative and support staffing due to potential future increase in projected enrolment at Sheridan Park Public School are reflected in the estimated costs to the Board.

**(c) Report of the Accommodation Review Committee of Parliament Oak and Crossroads Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

**"That the Final Report and Recommendation of the Niagara on the Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review Committee and its attachments be received by the Board."**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Stainsby introduced former Superintendent Sue Mark who presented a verbal overview of the Final Report and Recommendations of the Niagara on the Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review Committee. Sue Mark's overview included information on the following:

- Membership of the Accommodation Review Committee;
- Accommodation Review process;
- School Program;
- School Facilities;
- Demographics and Housing;
- Findings and Recommendations of the Accommodation Review Committee;
- School Valuation for Niagara on the Lake Elementary Schools based on recommendation.



**NEW BUSINESS – continued:****(c) Report of the Accommodation Review Committee of Parliament Oak and Crossroads Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

Sue Mark added that the Final Report also includes an overview of the Accommodation Review Committee meetings and Public meetings.

Trustee Fulford asked for clarification of Parliament Oak's postal code as "rural;" and the costs associated with making Parliament Oak right sized.

Vice-Chair Barnett asked for clarification on how the right sizing analysis will impact on areas where students are being drawn from.

Chair Maves indicated that the clarifying information will be provided to the Trustees.

**(d) Report of Senior Administration on the 2013/14 Accommodation Review of Parliament Oak and Crossroads Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy  
Seconded by Dale Robinson**

**"That the Board receives the report of Senior Administration on the Accommodation Review of Niagara on the Lake Elementary Schools."**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Stainsby introduced Superintendent Jim Morgan who presented a verbal overview of the Report of Senior Administration of the Niagara on the Lake Elementary Schools Accommodation Review.

Superintendent Morgan's overview provided information on the following:

- Background - including Declining Enrolment in the DSBN and in Niagara on the Lake, Aging Facilities, Provincial Funding, Programming, School Size: What Research Reveals;
- Rationale for the Senior Administration recommendation, ("*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.*");
- Implementation of the Senior Administration recommendation, if approved by the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS – continued:****(d) Report of Senior Administration on the 2013/14 Accommodation Review of Parliament Oak and Crossroads Elementary Schools dated February 2014**

Trustee Bradnam requested the following information:

- potential class sizes for Crossroads Public School for the 2015 school year;
- a diagram or layout of the classes to be used at Crossroads by Parliament Oak students, including the four recommended new classrooms, and use of the present Music and Art rooms;
- data from the Town or the Region regarding the potential construction of medium to low income housing units for purchase;
- a chart showing any other possible parking spaces in addition to the 11 additional spaces that could be added to Crossroads.

Chair Maves reminded the Board that Trustees will have 60 days to review the Accommodation Review material, followed by deliberation. Chair Maves thanked the audience for their attention and respectful demeanour and added that the Board looks forward to hearing from community members at upcoming Board meetings.

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

There were no staff reports.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

Trustees participated in an Information Session on “Child Care at DSBN” prior to the Board meeting.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

There was no Correspondence and Communication.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Trustee Ness reported that Board staff have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to participate in Mathematics education courses offered by the Board. Superintendent Dickson added that 155 teachers have signed up for the course which will be completed by early Summer.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:**

- (b) Vice-Chair Barnett commended the Welland Centennial Secondary School Cougars on their recent success in Niagara Falls.
- (c) Vice-Chair Barnett thanked everyone for supporting the recent Rock N Ross fundraiser.

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**

There was no report.

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

**6. Future Meetings**

The revised calendar of February 2014 meetings was provided. The draft calendar of March 2014 meetings was provided.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Ed Fulford  
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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