



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**January 14, 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, Barbara Ness, Dale Robinson (arrived at 7:15 p.m.), Dave Schaubel

**Student**

**Trustees:** Tara Lundy (regrets), Courtney Steingart (arrived at 8:00 p.m.)

**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:** Karen Bellamy

**Technical**

**Support:** Linda Gonschior

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

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

Chair Kevin Maves called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:15 p.m. Chair Maves noted Student Trustee Tara Lundy's absence due to exams, and noted Student Trustee Courtney Steingart will arrive late.

**2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

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

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

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

**CARRIED**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:07 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

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

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in remembrance of former trustee, Donald Love. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves extended condolences to Don’s family and friends.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Barbara Ness opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded Cheryl Keddy**

**“That the Agenda be adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Minutes of the Organization Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 10, 2013, be confirmed as submitted;” and

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 10, 2013, 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 Dalton Clark

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

**CARRIED**

Chair Maves reported that the following motions carried in Committee of the Whole (Private Session):

“That Board staff be authorized to proceed with issuing a Request for Proposal (for sale by tender) for the disposal of F. J. Rutland School located at 8960 Willoughby Drive, Niagara Falls;” and

“That Board staff be authorized to respond to the City’s letter to negotiate the price associated with the demolition of the West Park Pool;” and

“That Board staff be authorized to review the Education Centre’s property needs and to initiate the severance process of the former Queen Mary site;” and

“That Niagara District Secondary School located at 1875 Niagara Stone Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake, be declared surplus to the Board’s needs

**effective January 15, 2014 and that Board staff be authorized to dispose of the property in accordance with Ontario Regulation 444/98.”**

Chair Maves noted that the Board accepted the retirement of Marian Lamb, Executive Assistant to the Director of Education, effective March 31, 2014. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Marian for her outstanding service and wished her well in retirement.

Chair Maves announced the appointment of Gregory M. George, Labour Relations Manager/Chief Negotiator, effective January 20, 2014.

Chair Maves announced the appointment of Candi Sitko, as administrator of Jeanne Sauvé Public School, effective September 2, 2014, and wished her well in her new position.

## **F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Director’s Report and Recognition**

#### **(a) Recognition of DSBN Technology and Experiential Team**

Director Hoshizaki reported that due to a scheduling conflict, the recognition of the DSBN Technology and Experiential Team has been deferred until January 28, 2014.

#### **(b) Director’s Update to Trustees**

##### **i. Victoria Public School**

Victoria Public School in Niagara Falls won the school challenge for Project Share - Good News Breakfast Food and Toy Drive raising \$6,092.20 in food, toys and cash donations. Congratulations to the students, staff and community for this incredible achievement and for their care and support for others!

##### **ii. United way funds initiative to help young Fort Erie students reach post-secondary**

Youth University volunteers will be mentoring students in Grades 6 -10 at Peace Bridge Public School and Fort Erie Secondary School this winter. This partnership which is supported by a \$3,500 grant from the United Way of Niagara Falls and Greater Fort Erie will assist in providing food for the youth and transportation for the Brock University student mentors each week. Transportation is provided by Dunn the Mover. Now in its fourth year, the innovative program, led by Brock student volunteers, involves mentoring, tutoring and after-school programming, as well as hands-on activities to identify and connect student interests with future careers, civic engagement and educational pathways including apprenticeships, college and

university to increase equitable access to post-secondary education in Niagara and in consultation with both school boards. Peace Bridge P.S. Principal Cindy Kohinski said “Having the support of Brock student mentors will build upon the efforts of our school staff to encourage, motivate and support our students as they pursue all their goals and ambitions. We are very pleased to be involved with this initiative.”

iii. **Korean Cultural Camp / Mexican Cultural Students**

Elementary schools of the DSBN will be welcoming thirty-five students in Grades 4-8 from Seoul, South Korea, who will be participating in the annual World Classroom program. The focus will be on the cultural experience of participating in our classrooms, making friends with DSBN students, and practicing their use of the English language. Many DSBN families are providing a homestay for these students which will also provide an opportunity for their own children to develop greater cultural awareness.

New this year, will also be a group of 20 Grade 7-8 short-term cultural students from Mexico for a 2-week stay who will attend Power Glen Elementary School.

2. **Educational Showcases**

(a) **Carousel Players – Norah Morgan Award**

Superintendent John Dickson introduced the showcase which recognized the Board’s valued partnership with Carousel Players, who have brought theatre to students of the Board for more than 40 years.

Candi Sitko, Principal of Power Glen Public School, introduced teacher Sandie Heckel, the recipient of this year’s Carousel Players Norah Morgan Memorial Award for Outstanding Arts Teacher. Principal Sitko provided a summary of Ms. Heckel’s outstanding contributions to students, the school community, and the Arts.

Gerda Klassen, Arts Consultant, introduced Debra McLaughlin, Chair of the Outreach Committee of Carousel Players. Ms. McLaughlin spoke highly of Norah Morgan and her contributions to students through the Arts. Ms. McLaughlin explained that the Norah Morgan Memorial Award celebrates the commitment and achievements of teachers who have made a strong contribution to the Arts in Niagara area schools. Ms. McLaughlin presented Sandie Heckel with the Norah Morgan Memorial Award.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended Sandie Heckel for her outstanding dedication to the Arts and to students. Chair Maves indicated

that the Board values its ongoing partnership with Carousel Players and for the opportunities and benefits they provide to our students.

Trustee Ness suggested a Carousel Players workshop may be appropriate for the PIC Committee to consider at the next PIC Conference.

(b) **A.N. Myer Football Team**

Superintendent John Stainsby introduced the showcase which recognized the students and coaches of A.N. Myer Secondary School's Junior Football Team.

Coach Jamie French presented members of the team and spoke about their accomplishments this season. They are the first DSBN school to win a Metro Football Championship which is a tremendous accomplishment.

Coach French thanked the students and coaches for their commitment and dedication to the team and to the football program. Their outstanding 10-0 season was a result of great work ethic. Coach French noted the pride and recognition they have brought to the school and the Board.

On behalf of the Board, Director Hoshizaki presented the team with a plaque in recognition of their outstanding achievement.

(c) **Eden Boys Volleyball Team**

Superintendent John Stainsby introduced the showcase which recognized the students and coaches of Eden's Senior Boys' Volleyball Team for their eighth consecutive win at the OFSAA Championships. Superintendent Stainsby commended Coach Pereira for his tremendous character and dedication to students.

Coach Albino Pereira presented the members of the team and commended the students for their hours of work and dedication to the sport. They improved constantly throughout the season and did not give up. The students displayed polite sportsmanship both on and off the court and represented the Board well.

On behalf of the Board, Director Hoshizaki presented the team with a plaque in recognition of their outstanding achievement.

Chair Maves commended the students and staff of both schools for their outstanding achievements and for bringing recognition to the Board.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS****1. Transitions Initiative Report**

Superintendent Wes Hahn provided a summary of the 2013-2014 Family of Schools report. Superintendent Hahn explained that the Family of Schools structure is a cross-panel support network that is focused on ensuring successful transitions for students entering Grade 9.

Fred Louws, Student Achievement Leader, Helena Tritchew, Principal, Fort Erie Secondary School, and Sherry Storrey Perchuluk, Principal, Fort Erie Elementary School shared information about their work in Family of Schools and the transition activities that support this initiative.

This initiative is focused on helping grade 8 students become familiar with the high school setting, allowing them to feel confident and comfortable as they move into high school. The communication and collaboration between elementary feeder schools and the boundary secondary school has been excellent and has strengthened relationships between schools.

Chair Maves thanked staff for the interesting presentation and noted the excellent engagement that grade 8 students are feeling with secondary schools.

**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 1289 to 1312 for the month of November 2013, totalling \$17,409,313.67 be received.”

**CARRIED**

**2. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE****Moved by Dave Schaubel****Seconded by Ed Fulford****“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated December 5, 2013, be received.”****CARRIED**

Trustee Schaubel reported that 33 cases were reviewed and strategies developed to meet the students' needs.

**3. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE****Moved by Courtney Steingart****Seconded by Sue Barnett****“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated December 11, 2013, be received.”****CARRIED**

Student Trustee Steingart provided a summary of the report, noting that students have shown a great interest in the Waste Management Challenge. Vice-Chair Barnett commented on the high level of engagement by the students during this presentation.

**4. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE****Moved by Alex Bradnam****Seconded by Dale Robinson****“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated December 11, 2013, be received.”****CARRIED**

Trustee Bradnam provided a summary of the report which centered around debriefing the 2013 PIC Conference. Trustee Bradnam commended Superintendent Marian Reimer Freisen and staff for their outstanding work in organizing the conference which led to its success.

**5. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)****Moved by Cheryl Keddy****Seconded by Alex Bradnam**



**“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated December 12, 2013, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Keddy provided a summary of the report noting the interesting ‘Student Voice’ presentation.

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

No questions were asked of and by Board members.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

**1. Staff Reports**

There were no staff reports.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

Director Hoshizaki informed trustees the Ministry of Education has announced a \$4 million grant to support Mathematics AQ courses for teachers.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

(a) Trustee Clark recognized the excellent work of the Communications Department and applauded the advertising campaign for the secondary school open houses.

(b) Trustee Barnett noted:

- Welland Centennial SS SHSM students have constructed a building at Niagara Region’s Safety Village
- Welland Centennial SS boys basketball team won a silver medal at the 59<sup>th</sup> Welland Tribune Basketball Tournament
- EFN’s 2014 Make Change for Children Campaign launches February 24, 2014. Trustees are encouraged to donate.

- Rockin' for Ross fundraising event takes place February 8, 2014
- Parent groups at Eastdale SS and Welland Centennial SS are very excited about the Grade 8 open houses.

(c) Trustee Bradnam commended the accomplishments of our staff and students involved in the Dig It Program. Trustee Bradnam referenced an article in The Toronto Star about Aquaponics and noted DSBN is on the cutting edge of such new initiatives.

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**

Trustee Keddy reminded trustees of the upcoming Public Education Symposium starting on January 30, 2014. As well, more information will be sent to trustees regarding the 2014 OPSBA AGM.

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

#### **6. Future Meetings**

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

January 15	Finance Committee 6 p.m.
January 22	ARC Public Meeting at Crossroads PS 6 p.m.
January 23	ARC Public Meeting at Sheridan Park PS 6 p.m.
January 29	EFN Meeting 5:15 p.m.

#### **N. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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