

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

BOARD ROOM - EDUCATION CENTRE

June 10, 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, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen

Bellamy, Cheryl Bujacz

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 7:00 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 Alex Bradnam Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

CARRIED

Moved by Dalton Clark Seconded by Barbara Ness

"That the Board do now return to open meeting."

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:36 p.m.

C. <u>SINGING OF "O CANADA"</u>

The Board stood as "O Canada" was performed by the Port Colborne High School Choir, on video.

Student Trustees Lundy and Steingart introduced and welcomed Nick Molkoski and Vinay Sharma, newly elected Student Trustees for the 2014-2015 school year, and read a bio of the students. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves welcomed the newly elected Student Trustees and added that the Board looks forward to working with the students next school year.

D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING

Student Trustee Courtney Steingart expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to have served on the Board as a Student Trustee. Student Trustee Steingart opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Ed Fulford Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the Agenda be adopted."

CARRIED

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Moved by Jonathan Fast Seconded by Barbara Ness

"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated May 27, 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. <u>Director's Report and Recognition</u>

(a) Recognition of Vic Barker, Teacher – Port Colborne High School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Vic Barker for his dedication to students in his role as a Technology Teacher. Vic is known for working long hours and weekends to give his students every possible advantage as they prepare for the world of work. Due to his high standards Port Colborne High School has become a testing centre for the Canadian Welding Bureau and his students have won Gold medals in Welding both Provincially and Nationally over the last 6 years. Vic is well respected by local Manufacturing industries and he has been visited by businesses and educators from the USA seeking to replicate his success in getting students industry ready. Vic is also known for role modeling high standards and by demanding high standards from his students he has earned the respect of parents, students and the entire community of Port Colborne and Wainfleet.

1. Director's Report and Recognition

(b) <u>Recognition of Marc Demers, Teacher – E.L. Crossley Secondary</u> School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Marc Demers for his 14 years as a Technology Teacher with the Board. During that time Marc has built a thriving Electricity Program at E.L. Crossley. He also established a SHSM in Energy which specializes in Electricity and which is popular with students and highly regarded in the local industry. Marc is known for his high standards and expectations of his students and he is well respected by Coop partners, local employers and former students. Students leave his program with the practical skills, knowledge and work ethic which are valued by community partners and which prepare students to go directly from high school into Electrical apprenticeships. Marc's students have also distinguished themselves locally, Provincially and Nationally in Skills Competitions, winning 4 Gold and 2 Bronze Provincial medals.

Director Hoshizaki updated the Board on the successes that students of both Vic and Marc experienced this past weekend at the National Skills Canada Competition in Toronto. After several days of hard work against the best of the best from across Canada, two DSBN students who represented the Province of Ontario at this year's National Competition brought home the highest honour given – GOLD Medals! This is DSBN's first Double GOLD medals at the National Competition in over 17 years.

Elijah Schonewille of Port Colborne High School won a GOLD Medal in Welding, under the mentorship of Vic Barker.

Travis Gabryelski of E.L. Crossely Secondary School won a GOLD Medal in Electrical, under the mentorship of Marc Demers.

Congratulations to both Travis and Elijah for an outstanding job representing DSBN!

Director Hoshizaki presented Vic Barker and Marc Demers with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to students and the Board and for bringing National recognition to the DSBN and its Technology programs.

1. Director's Report and Recognition

(c) Recognition of Fred Scholl, Caretaker – St. Catharines Collegiate

Director Hoshizaki recognized Fred Scholl for his 36 years of exemplary and meticulous dedication to the Board and who consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty. Fred's dedication to excellence and problem solving are readily recognized by all who come in contact with him. Fred is described as kind-hearted, joyful and hospitable to everyone who enters the school and his outstanding character resonates throughout the entire staff and with students. His strong sense of family values and pride also resonates throughout the halls of Collegiate and beyond into the community. His closest colleagues say, "he is the most hardworking, approachable and hilarious individual they have ever been lucky enough to work with." Fred is also described as being the heart of Collegiate who exemplifies all the values that the Board holds dear.

Director Hoshizaki presented Fred Scholl with a token of the Board's appreciation for his extraordinary contributions to students and the Board.

(d) Recognition of the Math Team, School Support Services - Jennifer Bendlis, Jessica Drake, Glynnis Fleming, Cheryl Mojeski, Elizabeth Pattison, Lori Schuyler, Liisa Suurtamm, Erik Teather

Director Hoshizaki recognized the members of the Math Team for their passion and commitment and for working tirelessly to support and empower teachers, Administrators, and Superintendents in the area of Mathematics. Each member of the Team brings extensive knowledge and experience when working with staff and their love of Mathematics is evident as they work together as a team. The members of the team demonstrate mutual respect for one another as they challenge each others' thinking and the latest Mathematical and educational research, and provide students with opportunities to reach their full potential. Through a variety of initiatives, strategies and methods the main result has been an increased efficacy of both students and teachers, who are more confident in their ability to do and teach Mathematics. Many DSBN staff and students have shared their feedback which reflects the positive impact that the work of the Math Team has had on DSBN staff and students.

Director Hoshizaki presented the members of the Math Team with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to the Board and Mathematics education.

(e) <u>Director's Update to Trustees</u>

i. Prestigious Award

Congratulations to Kim Yielding, Manager of Communications and Public Relations, who has been honoured with a Front-Runner Award by the National School Public Relations Association. Only four Front-Runner Awards are given each year, and Kim is the only Canadian to receive one in over seven years. NSPRA Front-Runners are School Communication Professionals identified by the NSPRA Executive Board as emerging leaders who are doing outstanding work for their schools, their District, and for NSPRA and who have demonstrated professional leadership and/or have been recognized for innovation and excellence.

ii. Niagara Unity Award

Congratulations to Brandie Lancione, Consultant of Cultural and Linguistic Diversity, who was presented with the 2014 Community Culture Unity Award at the recent 2014 Niagara Unity Awards Dinner. Brandie was recognized for her contributions in making our communities and learning spaces safe for the whole community, especially LGBTQ students and their families.

iii. Student Creates Touchscreen Keyboard

Congratulations to Shabaz Momi, a Grade 8 student at Glynn A. Green Public School, who won first place at the Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair for his touchscreen keyboard which he designed to address the stress of typing on the wrists and hands.

iv. Student Updates

Congratulations to Pierre Simiganoschi, a Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School student, on his first place win at the recent Canadian French Speaking contest in PEI. Pierre earned a substantial scholarship to the University of Ottawa.

Congratulations to Varsha Jayasankar, a Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School student, who took second place in Canada at the recent Sanofi BioGenious Competition in Ottawa. Varsha also placed fourth overall as an individual with Team Canada at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in California. Varsha developed a powerful extract of mango ginger following years of research.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves and Trustee Bradnam congratulated all the recipients and commended them on their success and achievements.

Trustee Clark encouraged the Director to continue recognizing students and staff throughout the system at Board meetings. Trustee Clark added that the recognitions and updates provide Trustees with an opportunity to meet outstanding staff and students from across the Board. Trustee Clark also added that recognizing the accomplishments of staff and students in a variety of areas, including Technology students and teachers, is reflective of the impact that teaching staff and support staff have on students.

2. Educational Showcase

(a) Beamsville District Secondary School Soccer Team

Superintendent McGregor introduced the presentation which showcased the Beamsville District Secondary School SSTC Soccer Team.

Principal Zonneveld introduced the members and Coaches of the Soccer Team and she recognized the team for winning the Gold Medal at the recent Special Olympics Provincial School Soccer Championships. The Board viewed a slide show of the team.

Director Hoshizaki presented the team members with a Certificate in recognition of their accomplishments.

Trustee Keddy Scott congratulated the students and coaches on their work and for making the school proud.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the students for sharing their success and for bringing recognition to the Board.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There were no student achievement reports.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no Board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

Moved by Tara Lundy Seconded by Courtney Steingart

"That the Report of the Student Trustee Senate dated May 28, 2014, be received."

CARRIED

Student Trustee Steingart provided a summary of the report noting that the Environmental Challenge concluded with great success.

Stamford Collegiate – First Place Prize of choice of waste station or water station Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School – Second Place Prize of \$500 St. Catharines Collegiate – Third Place Prize of \$250

On behalf of the Student Trustee Senate, Student Trustee Lundy thanked Superintendent Stainsby and staff for supporting the Environmental Challenge and she thanked the Board for their support and for making the prizes available.

On behalf of Senior staff, Director Hoshizaki thanked Student Trustees Lundy and Steingart for their expertise and contributions to the Board. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves wished Student Trustees Lundy and Steingart all the best in their future endeavours.

2. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Dalton Clark Seconded by Barbara Ness

"That the report of the Finance Committee dated June 4, 2014, be received;" and

"That the low bid received from Duomax Developments, in the amount of \$654,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Renovations at Pine Grove Public School, St. Catharines;" and

"That the low bid received from TAT Construction, in the amount of \$698,551 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Interior Alterations at DSBN Academy."

CARRIED

Trustee Clark provided a summary of the report with respect to the recommended motions.

OLD BUSINESS – continued:

2. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Dalton Clark Seconded by Barbara Ness

"That the low bid received from Brouwer Construction, in the amount of \$9,090,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the construction of the new Harriet Tubman Public School, St. Catharines;" and

"That the low bid received from Bromac Construction, in the amount of \$8,190,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the construction of the new Twenty Valley Public School, Town of Lincoln."

CARRIED

Trustee Clark provided a summary of the report with respect to the recommended motions.

Moved by Dalton Clark Seconded by Barbara Ness

"That \$90,000 be included in the 2014-2015 Budget for Primary/Junior/Intermediate Math Additional Qualification Courses;" and

"That \$100,000 be included in the 2014-2015 Budget for the DreamBox Interactive Math Computer Program;" and

"That \$50,000 be included in the 2014-2015 Budget for the Curb Appeal Initiative;" and

"That \$345,000 be included in the 2014-2015 Budget for Professional Learning Communities (PLCs);" and

"That \$51,000 be included in the 2014-2015 Budget for Alternative Education Instructional Outreach;" and

"That the 2014-2015 Revenue and Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$431,423,854 be approved, subject to Ministry of Education approval, and the estimate forms be submitted to the Ministry of Education."

CARRIED

Trustee Clark provided a summary of the report with respect to the recommended motions, together with highlights of the Preliminary 2014-2015 Budget. Trustee Clark added that the proposed Budget represents a balanced, sustainable Budget that the Board can be proud of and that will enhance programs over the next year. Trustee Clark pointed out that the Province has made a commitment to continue addressing the

OLD BUSINESS – continued:

2. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

shortfall in the DSBN's Special Education funding over the next four years. As a result, it is anticipated that the use of accumulated surplus in the amount of \$4,694,998 to balance the 2014-2015 Budget will be replenished over the four year period.

Trustees Bradnam and Fulford commended the Finance Committee, Senior Team and support staff for their work throughout the year in bringing forward the good news Budget which will continue to enhance programs.

In response to a question from Trustee Fulford regarding the longer term balance of funds in accumulated surplus, Trustee Clark replied that the longer term balance of funds in accumulated surplus is not predictable at this time. However, Trustee Clark reminded the Board of the Province's commitment to increase our Board's Special Education funding over the next four years, which will replenish monies allocated from accumulated surplus. Trustee Clark also added for Trustee Fulford that the Budget is based on current and enhanced programs and no contingencies are built in. In the event the Province introduced new initiatives funding would be provided by the Province to implement the initiatives.

Trustee Campbell and Chair Maves reminded the Board that developing the Budget is an ongoing process throughout the year and that the Finance Committee meetings are well attended by the majority of the Trustees where many questions are raised by Trustees on Budget matters. As a result, Trustees are well informed when the proposed Budget comes forward to the full Board.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked all staff for their work throughout the year.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions asked of and by Board members.

L. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

There was no new business.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Staff Reports

(a) <u>Deliberations on the 2013/14 West Fort Erie Elementary Schools</u> Accommodation Review

Superintendent Stainsby thanked everyone involved in the Accommodation Review process for their work and commitment. Superintendent Stainsby provided a brief overview of the process and timelines for the 2013/14 West Fort Erie Elementary Schools Accommodation Review which began in September 2013. Superintendent Stainsby added that at the April 8, 2014, Board Meeting Trustees received the Accommodation Review Committee Report and the Report of Senior Administration on the Accommodation Review of West Fort Erie 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 Dave Schaubel Seconded by Sue Barnett

"That a new ELKP – Grade 8 school to accommodate five hundred (500) students be built for September 1, 2016, in the Crystal Ridge area and fronting onto Rebstock Road on lands solely owned by the Town of Fort Erie, provided the Town of Fort Erie make available a minimum of 7 acres for a school and playground and that an agreement between the DSBN and the Town of Fort Erie, regarding the lands, can be reached no later than September 30, 2014. Failing to reach this agreement, a new ELKP-Grade 8 school to accommodate five hundred (500) students be built for September 1, 2016, on the present Ridgeway Public School site at 143 Ridge Road to accommodate the consolidated student populations;" and

"That Bertie Public School be closed for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2106, and that students be redirected to the new school;" and

"That Crystal Beach Public School be closed for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2016, and that students be redirected to the new school;" and

"That Ridgeway Public School be closed for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2016, and that students be redirected to the new school;" and

"That the boundary for the new elementary school built on Rebstock Road, or 143 Ridge Road, Ridgeway, become effective as of June 30, 2016."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Staff Reports

(a) <u>Deliberations on the 2013/14 West Fort Erie Elementary Schools</u> Accommodation Review

Trustee Schaubel spoke to the recommended motion. Trustee Schaubel acknowledged the controversy regarding the location and historical ownership of the proposed site and he expressed his confidence in the Accommodation Review process and the commitment of the Town of Fort Erie. Trustee Schaubel expressed his support for the recommended motion and provided his rationale and reasons in support of his position.

Vice-Chair Barnett commended the ARC committee members for reflecting on what is best for students and for being open minded throughout the process. Vice-Chair Barnett expressed her support for 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 support for the recommended motion and provided their rationale and reasons in support of their position.

Director Hoshizaki clarified for Trustee Fast that the intent is for the new school to be built on property that will become under the ownership of the Board. Director Hoshizaki added that there will also be opportunities for developing options with the Town, such as community use agreements.

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

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked everyone involved for their work and input throughout the Accommodation Review process. Chair Maves added his confidence that the Board and the Town will come to an agreement on site location.

(b) Report of the Sheridan Park / Meadowvale Naming Committee

Superintendent Reimer Friesen reported on the process to rename Sheridan Park Public School which was conducted in accordance with Board Policy A-9: Naming/Renaming of Schools. Superintendent Reimer Friesen set out the criteria, Committee composition, and the consultation process. Superintendent Reimer Friesen reported that 48 names were submitted and following the consultation process the Committee made the following recommendation:

1. Staff Reports

(b) Report of the Sheridan Park / Meadowvale Naming Committee

"That the three choices as determined by the Sheridan Park / Meadowvale Naming Committee be received and that the Trustees vote by ballot to choose the name for the North-End Public School."

William Hamilton Merritt Public School Canal Parklands Public School Frederick Fisher Public School

Superintendent Reimer Friesen spoke to the significance of the proposed names. Trustee Bradnam thanked Superintendent Reimer Friesen and the Naming Committee for their work throughout the process. Trustee Campbell added that the proposed names are listed in priority order, and that in compliance with Policy A-9 three names are submitted for the Trustees' consideration.

Karen Bellamy, 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.

Following a vote by ballot, which were collected and counted by the Scrutineers, Chair Maves reported that the Trustees voted by majority to adopt the name <u>William Hamilton Merritt Public School</u>.

MOTION

Moved by Alex Bradnam Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That Sheridan Park Public School be renamed to William Hamilton Merritt Public School, effective September 1, 2014."

CARRIED

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked everyone who participated in the naming process.

MOTION

Moved by Alex Bradnam Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the ballots be destroyed."

CARRIED

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee Information Session.

3. Correspondence and Communication

(a) **OPSBA**

OPSBA has requested the names of two Trustees appointed to serve as OPSBA Director and Alternate Director on the OPSBA Board of Directors for the 2014-2015 term, and as well, the names of two Trustees appointed to hold the position of Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate for the Annual General Meeting and Regional Council meetings for the 2014-2015 term.

Trustee Ness nominated Trustee Keddy Scott for the positions of OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate. Trustee Ness also nominated Vice-Chair Barnett for the positions of OPSBA Alternate Director and Alternate Voting Delegate. Trustee Keddy Scott and Vice-Chair Barnett let their names stand.

Moved by Barbara Ness Seconded by Dalton Clark

"That Trustee Cheryl Keddy Scott be appointed to serve as OPSBA Director for the 2014-2015 term;" and

"That Trustee Sue Barnett be appointed to serve as OPSBA Alternate Director for the 2014-2015 term;" and

"That Trustee Cheryl Keddy Scott be appointed to hold the position of Voting Delegate for the Annual General Meeting and Regional Council meetings for the 2014-2015 term;" and

"That Trustee Sue Barnett be appointed to hold the position of Alternate Voting Delegate for the Annual General Meeting and Regional Council meetings for the 2014-2015 term."

CARRIED

The Trustees understood that depending on the outcome of the School Board elections in the Fall, it may be necessary to review the appointments at that time.

(b) Correspondence from Leanne Mason regarding the West Fort Erie Elementary School Accommodation Review

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that Beamsville District Secondary School raised \$35,000 at its recent Relay for Life fundraiser.
- (b) Trustee Keddy Scott commended Grimsby Secondary School on its success at the recent 24 Hour Famine fundraiser.
- (c) Trustee Keddy Scott commended Vineland Public School on its successful recent Fun Fair. The event was well attended by over 500 people.
- (d) Trustee Ness reported that campaign signs for the upcoming Provincial elections were recently posted on school property in Niagara Falls.

 Trustee Ness added that the signs were removed promptly.
 - Superintendent Roberto added that the signs were brought to her attention Monday morning (June 9th) and she commended the Principal and Caretaker for being vigilant and for having the signs removed.
- (e) Vice-Chair Barnett reported that similar campaign signs were posted in the Welland area and removed quickly. Vice-Chair Barnett suggested that a letter be sent to the political parties reminding them of the protocol regarding election signs.
- (f) Trustee Clark reported that he attended the recent Excellence in Education Dinner and he commended the organizers for recognizing and honouring students within the Board.
- (g) Trustee Bradnam reported that he attended the recent Niagara Nutrition Partners Breakfast where approximately \$30,000 was raised in support of breakfast programs throughout the Board. Trustee Bradnam commended the St. Catharines Collegiate Culinary Program for preparing an award winning breakfast.
- (h) Vice-Chair Barnett acknowledged the members of the West Fort Erie Elementary Accommodation Review Committee who were in attendance at the Board meeting.
- (i) Vice-Chair Barnett and Superintendent Dickson gave a reminder of the June 11th Special Olympics event (rain date June 17th).

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 Scott reported that she attended the OPSBA Executive Meeting on Friday, May 30th, and that Trustees were provided with a package of information. Questions regarding the information package can be forwarded to the Director's Office.

Trustee Keddy Scott reminded the Trustees that registration is open for the upcoming OPSBA's Annual General Meeting which will include the Aboriginal Conference on Wednesday, July 2nd.

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

6. <u>Future Meetings</u>

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

Monday, June 23 Properties Disposal Committee - 4:30 p.m.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Alex Bradnam Seconded by Dave Schaubel

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

CARRIED

Ine meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.n	<u>n.</u>
KEVIN MAVES, Chair	WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education and Secretary/Treasurer