



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**May 27, 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 Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

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

**CARRIED**

**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 6:42 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Glynn A. Green Public School Choir, on video.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Student Trustee Tara Lundy opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Moved by Ed Fulford  
Seconded by Barbara Ness**

**“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 Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated May 13, 2014, be confirmed as submitted.”**

**CARRIED**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes****(a) Response to Questions from the May 13, 2014, Board Meeting Regarding the Accommodation Review of West Fort Erie Elementary Schools**

Superintendent Stainsby provided the following information:

- i) Cam Hathaway was the Chair of the Accommodation Review Committee. Rick Brady is a staff member for the Town of Fort Erie and he joined the ARC Committee as the Municipal representative. The two DSBN Trustees were Sue Barnett and Dave Schaubel.
- ii) A question arose regarding the ownership of the land at Crystal Ridge Park. The Town Planning staff have confirmed the Town’s ownership of the property, and that the land has no building restrictions. The Town also confirmed the land is Zoned as P (Public), which means that a school is permitted to be built on the property.
- iii) A question was posed concerning the historical features of the buildings. DSBN has a strong record of maintaining the historical elements of our schools. If the direction of Trustees is to build a new school, Board staff will work with the Transition Team to incorporate historical components from each of the schools. This consideration was also a part of the ARC Committee’s Report as a recommendation (item 11).

**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**

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:****4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session)**

Chair Maves reported that in Committee of the Whole the Trustees accepted the retirement of Rita De Luca-Gates, E.I. McCulley Public School Principal, effective June 30, 2014. On behalf of the Board Chair Maves commended Principal De Luca-Gates for her 30 years of dedication to public education and wished her well in her retirement.

**F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Danielle Reynolds, Speech Language Pathologist**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Danielle Reynolds who, for more than 24 years, has provided extraordinary service to students and parents, and to the Board. Danielle is highly respected by her colleagues who describe her as a woman who has continuously pushed herself to be knowledgeable of current research, who passionately advocated for the role of Speech Pathologists, and for the support that children need in order to succeed. Principals would echo the sentiments of Danielle's colleagues, and describe the impact she has had on the students and staff in their buildings. Danielle is known for her positive, supportive demeanour and for making parents, students and staff feel comfortable. Most importantly, Danielle is known for leaving parents and staff with a strong understanding of what can be done to support the student and to help them achieve their full potential. Danielle's passion demonstrates that if we work together, the student will succeed.

Director Hoshizaki presented Danielle Reynolds with a token of the Board's appreciation for her extraordinary contributions to the Board.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves and Vice-Chair Barnett commended Danielle Reynolds for her work and dedication to students and the Board.

**(b) Director's Update to Trustees****i. Family Math Night at Central Public School**

Recently, Central Public School staff hosted a successful Family Math Night to celebrate student achievement in Mathematics and to inform parents of current Math initiatives and instructional practices. The goal of the evening was to support parents in being able to help their children become strong Mathematicians.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****(b) Director's Update to Trustees****ii. Sir Winston Churchill Student Headed to P.E.I.**

Pierre Simiganoschi recently earned first place in the Grade 11-12 category at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Concours et Festival D'Art Oratoire at York University's Bilingual Campus. Pierre will represent Ontario at the upcoming National Competition in P.E.I. Twenty-four students took part in the DSBN French Speaking Competition in February, of which eight qualified to take part in the Provincial contest.

**iii. Stevensville Public School Champions**

Recently, Stevensville Public School's Grade 8 Math Team won Gold at the Math Olympics after competing against more than 30 teams from the DSBN and the Niagara Catholic District School Board. The Grade 8 Math Team will now represent Niagara at the Provincial competition.

Recently, Stevensville Public School Intermediate students participated in the Heritage Fair in Fort Erie. Three of their teams won the DSBN competition and will be going on to the Provincial competitions.

**2. Educational Showcase****(a) Silver Birch Conference Presentation**

Superintendent Dickson introduced the presentation which showcased the Silver Birch Reading Program and the recent DSBN Annual Silver Birch Conference.

Members of the Board's Silver Birch Steering Committee explained that over 40,000 students from across Ontario, ages 10-12, participate in the Silver Birch Reading Program which is coordinated by the Ontario School Library Association. The Silver Birch Reading Program was introduced in our Board in 2006 and since then has grown to more than 300 participants. The Steering Committee members explained how the program works noting that to be eligible for Provincial and DSBN voting, students must have read at least five books throughout the school year from the nominated fiction and non-fiction titles (DSBN students read twenty). The award winning books/authors are determined according to the student votes. Provincial winners are selected from the student votes across Ontario and presented with the Silver Birch Award at a Provincial ceremony. The goal of the program is to encourage Canadian Literature and writing and the development of literacy skills.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****2. Educational Showcase****(a) Silver Birch Conference Presentation**

The recent Annual Silver Birch Celebration of Literacy Conference, which celebrates and validates the students' love of reading, was the culminating event for students who participated in the Ontario Library Association's Silver Birch Reading Program. The Board viewed a video which highlighted students participating in various activities at the Conference.

Trustees Bradnam and Robinson commended the coordinators of this outstanding event which supports students as they work on their reading and writing skills, and for the positive impact the program has on students.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the Silver Birch Steering Committee and commended all the students for their participation in the program.

**(b) Grimsby Secondary School Improv Team**

Superintendent McGregor introduced the presentation which showcased Grimsby Secondary School's Regional Champions and National participants at the Improv Games. Grimsby's Improv Coach, Joedy Ebert, explained that Grimsby Secondary School's Improv Team has competed in the Canadian Improv Games for 13 years, adding that Improv has a positive impact on students by developing self-worth, confidence, listening and communication skills. The National Competition is a coast to coast tournament with the top 20 teams competing on the National stage at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa.

Members of the Improv Team gave a performance for the Board based on the theme, "One Step Forward, Two Steps Back."

Trustees Bradnam, Keddy Scott and Ness, commended the Team and their Coach on a great job. At Trustee Bradnam's request, students explained the significance of the crest on their t-shirts and their motto, Huzzah, *Give It All or Don't Give Anything*.

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

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**

There were no student achievement reports.

## H. DELEGATIONS

Chair Maves reminded the Delegations of the five minute speaking limit.

1. Lesley Burrison – Ridgeway resident, opposed the proposal to build a new school on Rebstock Road in the Accommodation Review of West Fort Erie Elementary Schools and she questioned the need to acquire property rather than build a new school on an existing Board site. Ms. Burrison asked that the Trustees reconsider the proposed location of the new school. Ms. Burrison expressed concerns that residents were not informed of the proposed location for a new school. Ms. Burrison agreed that there is a need for amalgamation and she suggested that the process be conducted in a more thoughtful manner.

In response to Vice-Chair Barnett's question whether she has met with Town Council members to express her concerns, Ms. Burrison replied that she has contacted the Town but has not yet met with Town Council members. Vice-Chair Barnett reminded Ms. Burrison that notice of the Accommodation Review meetings and process was in the newspaper and that representatives from the community sat on the Accommodation Review Committee. Ms. Burrison agreed that there was representation on the ARC Committee from Ridgeway but not from residents in proximity to the proposed location of the new school.

2. Laura Martin – parent, spoke in support of consolidating three elementary schools into one community in the Accommodation Review of West Fort Erie Elementary Schools. Ms. Martin also spoke in support of the proposed new build on the Rebstock Road site.

There were no questions of clarification.

3. William MacQuarrie – student, spoke in support of the proposed new build on the Rebstock Road site.

William confirmed for Vice-Chair Barnett that he resides beside Crystal Beach Public School and that he would be able to ride his bicycle to the proposed new build on Rebstock Road.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the Delegations for their presentations.

## I. BOARD RECESS

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

**“That the Board recess.”**

**CARRIED**

The Board recessed at 8:00 p.m.

**BOARD RECESS – continued:**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 8:13 p.m.

**J. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. ACCOUNTS**

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

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1365 to 1380 for the month of April 2014 totalling \$16,625,870.51 be received.”**

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

**Moved by Dale Robinson  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam**

**“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated May 7, 2014, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Robinson provided a summary of the report. Trustee Bradnam added that the Fall PIC Conference is titled, “THRIVE: Helping Kids Thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” and that a variety of informative workshops are being planned.

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

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

**“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL) dated May 8, 2014, be received.”**

**CARRIED**



**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****3. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Trustee Schaubel reported that the Committee reviewed 17 cases (213 to date this school year) and strategies were developed to meet the students' needs. Trustee Schaubel commended the Student Success Teachers for their dedicated work with the students.

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

**Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott**

**“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) dated May 14, 2014, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Bradnam provided a summary of the report which included a report from the Special Education Team regarding program locations and changes, and an announcement that the Ministry of Education will allocate additional funding to the Board for the Special Education High Needs Amount. Trustee Ness gave an overview of Dr. Stan Kutcher's Mental Health presentation.

**5. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

**“That the report of the Finance Committee dated May 21, 2014, be received;” and**

**“That the 2014-2015 Revenue Budget Report be received as presented.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Clark provided a summary of the discussions on the 2014-2015 Budget process, which included the impact of declining enrolment. Trustee Clark noted that new Special Education Grant Funding for High Needs Amount was announced by the Ministry to be phased in over four years.

Trustee Clark and Chair Maves encouraged all Trustees to attend the June 4<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting for a review of the Expenditure Budget.

Superintendent Stainsby clarified for Trustee Bradnam that the long term projections for secondary enrollment will go to a future Finance Committee meeting. Trustee Bradnam commended the Finance Committee and Board staff for their work in moving towards a good news budget.

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

- (a) Trustee Keddy Scott asked that on behalf of the Board a letter be sent from the Chair to the Town of Lincoln Council addressing the implications of a potential delay in the construction of the new elementary school in Vineland. Superintendent Pisek explained that the Town of Lincoln Council has approved the execution of a Site Plan Agreement with the Board and Town staff were directed to issue building permits. Subsequently, the Town's Senior Planner added a stipulation for the construction of a low level, knee high wall for curb appeal purposes on Victoria Avenue. Superintendent Pisek added that Board staff are working with Town staff and she expressed her confidence that the issue will be rectified shortly.

A brief discussion followed with Trustees expressing concerns that although the Town Council approved the Site Plan Agreement, Town staff have introduced the construction of a wall for building permit purposes. Trustees noted that a wall was not in the Board's plan for the site and should not delay the issuing of building permits. Trustees reiterated their concerns that the delay would impact on the construction of the new school for a September 2015 opening.

The Trustees agreed that Chair Maves will contact the Town of Lincoln Mayor and follow up with written correspondence expressing the Board's concerns regarding the implications of delaying the issuing of building permits due to the wall issue.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

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

- (a) **Report of the Naming Committee of the new Central St. Catharines Public School**

Superintendent Reimer Friesen reported on the process to name the new Central St. Catharines 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 59 names were submitted and following the consultation process the Committee made the following recommendation.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - continued:****1. Staff Reports****(a) Report of the Naming Committee of the New Central St. Catharines Public School**

“That the three 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 Central St. Catharines Public School.”

**Harriet Tubman Public School  
Parkside Public School  
Henry Street Public School**

Superintendent Reimer Friesen spoke to the significance of the proposed names. Trustee Clark thanked the Committee for their work throughout the process. Trustee Bradnam expressed his support for the proposed name, Harriet Tubman Public School, noting the historical significance.

Director Hoshizaki called a Point of Order and asked if the Student Trustees are permitted to vote and Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, clarified that the Student Trustees were eligible to vote.

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 Harriet Tubman Public School.

**MOTION**

**Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam**

**“That the new Elementary School in Central St. Catharines to be located on the existing Alexandra Public School site be named Harriet Tubman Public School, effective May 28, 2014.”**

**CARRIED**

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

- (a) **Report of the Naming Committee of the New Central St. Catharines Public School**

**MOTION**

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

**“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.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Vice-Chair Barnett gave a reminder of the CAPPIES Niagara Awards ceremony being held at Welland Centennial Secondary School on May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- (b) Vice-Chair Barnett reported that Cindy Paskey has been appointed as the new Executive Director of the Education Foundation of Niagara. Vice-Chair Barnett added that there is a call for more participants in the upcoming EFN Golf Tournament.
- (c) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that she attended Central Public School's recent successful Family Math Curriculum Night.
- (d) Trustee Keddy Scott gave a reminder of Beamsville District Secondary School's Relay for Life on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- (e) Trustee Keddy Scott gave a reminder of Vineland Public School's Fun Fair on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

- (f) Trustee Keddy Scott commended Kim Yielding, Manager of Communications and Public Relations, for transforming Grimsby Secondary School's front foyer on a limited budget.
- (g) Trustee Bradnam commended the impressive number of schools, students, parents and staff who participated in the recent Rankin Cancer Walk Run. Director Hoshizaki recognized Dalewood Public School for raising \$25,000.
- (h) Trustee Campbell gave a reminder of Meadowvale Public School's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- (i) Trustee Robinson gave a reminder that Thorold's Active Transportation Advisory Committee is hosting "Dust Off Your Bikes (and Skateboards!)" on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Battle of the Beaverdams Park. The event provides everyone with the opportunity to have their bikes and skateboards checked for safety. Students from Thorold Secondary School will assist with the bike rodeo and bike mechanics.
- (j) Trustee Ness gave a reminder of the "Springalicious" event in downtown Niagara Falls this coming weekend. Schools will be performing along Queen Street, with the Princess Margaret Drum Class performing on May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- (k) Trustee Ness commended Niagara this Week for its recent article on the Specialist High Skills Major Program, Dig It. The article also reports that there are 860 students enrolled in 42 SHSM programs this year and it recognizes the positive impact the programs have on the students' success.

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

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

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that she will attend the OPSBA Executive Meeting this Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, and that Trustees will be provided with a package of information thereafter. Trustee Campbell reminded the Trustees that registration is open for the upcoming CSBA Congress (Excellence: Reimagined) on July 3-5, 2014. Chair Maves added that the CSBA Congress and OPSBA's Annual General Meeting is a joint conference and a variety of informative sessions are scheduled.

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

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:**

**6. Future Meetings**

The revised calendar of June 2014 meetings was provided.

Chair Maves encouraged all Trustees to attend the June 4<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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