



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

September 9, 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: Nick Molkoski, Vinay Sharma

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, Paula MacKinnon, JoAnna Roberto, Stacy Veld, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Bujacz

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 7:05 p.m.

Chair Maves welcomed the Brock University Faculty of Education students who were in the gallery. Chair Maves also welcomed Nick Molkoski and Vinay Sharma who were elected as Student Trustees for the 2014-2015 school. Chair Maves introduced and welcomed Assistant Superintendent Lora Courtois and Superintendent Paula MacKinnon to their first Board meeting and added congratulations to Stacy Veld who was attending her first Board meeting in the capacity of Superintendent of Business.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued:

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 Dave Schaubel

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

CARRIED

Moved by Ed Fulford
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:52 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Port Colborne High School and McKay Public School Choirs, on video.

D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Lora Campbell opened the meeting with a prayer.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

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

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 23, 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

Chair Maves reported that the following motion was carried in Committee of the Whole.

“That Meadowvale Public School located at 63 Cecil Street, St. Catharines, be declared surplus to the Board’s needs effective September 10, 2014, and that Board staff be authorized to dispose of the property in accordance with Ontario Regulation 444/98.”

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Carmen van Dongen, Educational Assistant – Maywood Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Carmen van Dongen for her 9 years of service with the District School Board of Niagara as an Educational Assistant. Carmen van Dongen currently works at Maywood Public School where she is known for working tirelessly to benefit the students in her care and those throughout the entire school. Mrs. van Dongen’s

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director's Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Carmen van Dongen, Educational Assistant – Maywood Public School**

involvement at school includes the daily Breakfast Program, Road Race organizer, After School Reading Club and Lunch Program Co-ordinator.

Director Hoshizaki presented Carmen van Dongen with a token of the Board's appreciation for her dedication to students and the Board.

(b) Recognition of Madeline Marck-Sherk, Student – Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Madeline Marck-Sherk, a Grade 12 student, for her many accomplishments in the world of golf and for her academic dedication and diligence. Madeline began playing golf competitively at age 12 and since then she has successfully competed at the Provincial and National Levels, as well as the World Teen Championships at age 14. Most recently in August, Madeline competed in the Golf Association of Ontario's Juvenile (U17) Girls Championships where she earned the Juvenile Girls Trophy and the Ontario Summer Games' Gold Medal. At school Madeline is described as being humble, hardworking and humorous. She works tirelessly in all subjects and always has time to help her peers.

Director Hoshizaki presented Madeline Marck-Sherk with a token of the Board's recognition of her accomplishments.

(c) Director's Update to Trustees**i. Welcome Back to Students and Staff**

As students return to school for the 2014-2015 year Director Hoshizaki extended appreciation to everyone at the Board, from teachers and Principals, to support staff, Senior leaders and Trustees for their commitment and dedication to student success.

ii. New High School – Town of Fort Erie

On September 3rd, St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley, on behalf of Education Minister Liz Sandals, announced that the government will fund the construction of a new high school in the Town of Fort Erie. The government's investment and support will assist the DSNB in fulfilling its mission of inspiring, empowering and supporting all learners to reach their full potential.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(c) Director’s Update to Trustees****iii. Kayla Andrews - Laura Secord Secondary Student**

Kayla Andrews, a Grade 9 student, won multiple medals for her outstanding swimming performance at the North American Indigenous Games held in July in Regina, Saskatchewan. Congratulations Kayla!

Trustee Fast commended the staff at Port Weller Public School for rolling out the red carpet as students returned to school. Vice-Chair Barnett commended Madeline Marck-Sherk on her athletic and academic accomplishments and for being a credit to the DSBN. Trustee Bradnam congratulated Carmen van Dongren for her dedication to students and her community.

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

2. Educational Showcase**(a) Harriet Tubman Public School**

Superintendent Marian Reimer Friesen introduced the showcase which highlighted the coming together of the community of Harriet Tubman Public School.

Superintendent Reimer Friesen introduced Ronna Lockyer, future Principal of Harriet Tubman Public School, who provided an overview of the plans and activities throughout the 2014-2015 school year as students, staff and the community prepare for the merging of Alexandra, Maywood, Memorial and Queen Mary Public Schools in September 2015. Principal Lockyer also unveiled and explained the significance of the Harriet Tubman Public School colours and the North Stars logo. On behalf of the Harriet Tubman Public School community Principal Lockyer thanked the Board and staff for supporting the Transition Plan.

The Board viewed a video which highlighted the historical significance of Harriet Tubman and her work with the Underground Railroad in St. Catharines. The video also showcased the vision and coming together of Harriet Tubman Public School.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**2. Educational Showcase****(a) Harriet Tubman Public School**

Superintendent Reimer Friesen explained for Trustee Clark that staff have been in contact with the artist who will be commissioned to create a sculpture of Harriet Tubman for the new school. Trustee Bradnam suggested that members of the BME Church which Harriet Tubman attended be invited to participate in the activities celebrating the coming together of Harriet Tubman Public School.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked staff for the presentation and added that the Board looks forward to the opening of the new school in September 2015.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

Superintendent Dickson and Assistant Superintendent Courtois provided an overview of Summer Programs 2014.

(a) Summer H.E.A.T. (Helping Everyone Achieve Together)

Superintendent Dickson provided background on the program which has operated now for six years. Superintendent Dickson explained that the three week program focused on literacy, numeracy, or Aboriginal cultural learning through a variety of learning activities at 10 sites. This summer 888 students ranging from those entering JK through to students entering Grade 4 participated in the program (an increase of 225 from last summer). Superintendent Dickson highlighted expansions that were introduced to this year's program.

Further information on the Summer H.E.A.T. Program is available at www.dsbni.org/summerheat.

(b) Summer School 2014

Assistant Superintendent Courtois provided an overview and highlights of the 2014 summer programs offered at District School Board of Niagara schools. This summer 2185 students from Grades 7 to 12 participated in a variety of programs, including:

- “GR8 IN 8” Program
- Grade 8 Reach Ahead Credit Program
- Summer School New Credit Programs
- E-Learning New Credit Program
- Regular Cooperative Education Program & Online Work and Learn
- Summer Jobs for Youth Cooperative Education Program

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS – continued:**(b) Summer School 2014**

Trustee Ness asked if it was possible to gather information on the number of DSBN students who took summer school courses with other School Boards. Superintendent Courtois will follow up.

Trustee Bradnam commended the Board and staff for developing and supporting the elementary and secondary summer programs for the benefit of students.

Trustee Keddy Scott asked whether the Grade 8 Program, which benefits students transitioning into Grade 9, will be expanded into other areas of the Board. Superintendent Dickson will follow up.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked all staff for sharing their time during the summer and working for the benefit of students.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no Board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to report.

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****(a) Specialist High Skills Major Program (SHSM) Update**

Superintendent MacKinnon provided an update on the Specialist High Skills Major Program noting that for this school year the Board's SHSM Programs are being expanded. Beginning in September six new programs are being added bringing the total SHSM Programs to 45 with approximately 927 students participating. The six new programs include Sports, Horticulture, Health and Wellness, Hospitality and Tourism, Arts and Culture, and Information and Communications Technology. Superintendent MacKinnon highlighted the opportunities and benefits students have experienced in the Regional Construction Home Building SHSM Program and the Regional Horticulture SHSM Program (DIG-IT). Superintendent MacKinnon added that the SHSM Programs allow students to specialize in areas of career interest and to obtain certification.

Further information on the Specialist High Skills Major Program is available at <http://teched.dsbnc.org/shsm>

(b) Facilities Projects Report

Superintendent Veld provided an update and highlights of the Facilities Projects Report noting that this year the Board committed \$35 million in capital projects and \$11.1 million in school renewal projects.

Trustee Bradnam recognized the contribution and hard work of staff throughout the summer to ensure that projects were completed and schools were ready for the start of another school year.

Vice-Chair Barnett requested that staff, particularly Custodians, be recognized for their countless hours of work to ensure schools were ready for September.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves commended all staff for their work over the summer.

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee Information Session.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:

3. Correspondence and Communication

- (a) **Request to Begin School Naming Process: New High School – Town of Fort Erie**

**Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

“That the request to begin the school naming process be authorized to begin in accordance with Board Policy A-9.”

CARRIED

Superintendent McGregor spoke to the schools’ request noting that the school communities of Fort Erie Secondary School and Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School are eager to begin the naming process as a step in preparing to merge the two school communities following the construction of a new secondary school which is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2017.

- (b) Ministry of Education Re: Administrative Review of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Accommodation Review Process

Chair Maves noted the correspondence is provided for information purposes.

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Trustee Keddy Scott provided an update on the amalgamation of the former Campden, Jordan, Maple Grove and Vineland Public Schools into the newly named Twenty Valley Public School. Trustee Keddy Scott added that construction of the new school scheduled for completion for September 2015 can be viewed at the school’s website at <http://twentyvalley.dsbm.org>

At Trustee Keddy Scott’s request, Kim Yielding – Manager of Communications, Public Relations and Printing, explained that when developing a school’s spirit wear logo and school colours, consideration is given to what is important and significant to the school and its connection to the community. Kim Yielding explained the importance and significance of Twenty Valley Public School’s logo and school colours.

- (b) Trustee Schaubel thanked the Trustees and Feeder Schools for attending the recent announcement of the Ministry’s approval to fund construction of the new secondary school in Fort Erie.

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

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:

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

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that the July Canadian School Boards' Association Congress joint conference and OPSBA Annual General Meeting were well attended and that participants enjoyed Chris Hadfield's keynote address.

OPSBA's 2015 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 11-13 in Collingwood.

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of September 2014 meetings was provided.

N. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

KEVIN MAVES, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer