



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**April 28, 2015**

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board:** Sue Barnett (Chair), Dale Robinson (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Ajandi, Helga Campbell, Lora Campbell, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves, Dave Schaubel

**Student Trustees:** Nick Molkoski and Vinay Sharma

**Regrets:** Trustee Diane Chase

**Officials:** Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Paula MacKinnon, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, 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 Barnett called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:05 p.m. and noted the absence of Trustee Diane Chase.

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**COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued:**

2. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Chair Barnett reported that she, Vice-Chair Robinson and Trustee Helga Campbell declared a conflict of interest in Committee of the Whole (Private Session).

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

Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Linda Crouch

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

**CARRIED**

Moved by Linda Crouch  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:43 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

Chair Barnett reported that today, April 28<sup>th</sup> is National Day of Mourning. This is a day to remember and honour those workers who have been killed, injured or suffered illness as a result of work-related incidents.

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Prince Philip Public School (Niagara Falls) Choir, on video.

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in recognition of National Day of Mourning.

**D. REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Jonathan Fast opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Helga Campbell  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

**CARRIED**

**2. Approval of Board Minutes**

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi  
Seconded by Kevin Maves

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated April 14, 2015, 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 Dale Robinson  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

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

**CARRIED**

Chair Barnett announced that in Committee of the Whole the Board accepted the retirement of Elementary Principal Beverly Smith effective June 30, 2015. On behalf of the Board, Chair Barnett thanked Principal Smith for her years of dedicated service to the Board and wished her all the best in her retirement.

**F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS****1. Director's Report and Recognition**

- (a) **Recognition of Margaret Hobbs (Teacher), Karen Davis (Educational Assistant), Sharon Graham (Educational Assistant), Maryann LeRose (Educational Assistant), Holly McNeil (Educational Assistant), and Elissa Kurucz (Educational Assistant) – Port Weller Public School's "Learning Team"**

Director Hoshizaki recognized the "Learning Team" in Port Weller's Fundamental Skills Classroom for supporting students and for making a difference in their lives. Director Hoshizaki added that the "Learning Team" of Margaret Hobbs (Teacher), and Educational Assistants Karen Davis, Sharon Graham, Maryann LeRose, Holly McNeil, and Elissa Kurucz are known for their expertise, dedication, professionalism, hard work and compassion.

Director Hoshizaki presented Margaret Hobbs, Karen Davis, Sharon Graham, Maryann LeRose, Holly McNeil, and Elissa Kurucz with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to students.

- (b) **Recognition of Jennifer and Andreas Gmoser, Parent Volunteers – Garrison Road Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Jennifer and Andreas Gmoser for their dedicated service to the Board and students at Garrison Road Public School in a variety of volunteer roles. Jennifer acts as a member of Parent Council, tutors in the school's Levelled Literacy Intervention Program, and she has taken a lead role in the Breakfast Program. In addition to the Breakfast Program, Andreas volunteers his time as a Track and Field Coach, and Head Coach of both Boys and Girls Junior Basketball Teams.

Director Hoshizaki presented Jennifer and Andreas Gmoser with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to students.

- (c) **Director's Update to Trustees**

i. **2015 (ORION) Leadership Award**

Dino Miele, DSBN's Chief Information Officer, has been awarded an Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network (ORION) Leadership Award. The award recognizes Dino's passion and leadership through his work on the following key innovative projects to modernize digital infrastructure at the DSBN and across Niagara.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(c) Director's Update to Trustees****i. 2015 (ORION) Leadership Award**

- Creation of a new state-of-the-art data centre at the DSBN which houses a central networking site connected with the Niagara Regional Broadband Network;
- Establishment of the Niagara Region CIO Consortium between the Region's health, education and government entities;
- Development of iHUB, the first educational technology incubator in North America to be located inside a converted K-12 school. Designed for Niagara youth to explore innovative start-up ideas, the iHUB operates in partnership with the DSBN, Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network University, Brock University and Niagara College.

Congratulations on this well deserved award and thank you for all you do to support teachers, students and learning at the DSBN!

**ii. Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Foundation**

Congratulations to Charmaine Holland from Fort Erie Secondary School who is a recipient of the Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Citizenship Award and Scholarship. Charmaine was one of 24 outstanding students from 90 School Boards across the country who were selected for the award which recognizes exemplary citizenship through extensive community service, volunteerism and humanitarian causes.

**iii. Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair**

Congratulations to all the DSBN students who participated in the recent Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Lucas Penny and Nicolaas Doyle from Grimsby Secondary School, and Holly Philbrick from Laura Secord Secondary School will represent Niagara at the Canada Wide Science Fair to be held in New Brunswick in May. Ben Friesen, also a student at Grimsby Secondary School, will represent Canada at the International Science Fair to be held in Pittsburg, PA, in May.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(c) Director’s Update to Trustees****iv. Canadian Improv Games**

The TriCity Regional Improv tournament took place earlier this month in Guelph with 20 teams from Southern Ontario competing, including 4 teams from DSBN (Laura Secord, E.L. Crossley, Thorold, and Grimsby Secondary Schools). This tournament is part of the Canadian Improv Games, a National competition of high school improv teams. Grimsby Secondary School went on to win and they will be performing against 19 other teams from across Canada at the National tournament in Ottawa. Bre Kovacs, a member of the Grimsby team, also won the Outstanding Improvisor Award which goes to the student who best exemplifies the spirit of the games. Congratulations to all four DSBN teams and best wishes to Grimsby in the finals!

**v. Park Public School – Mini “Me to We”: Grow the Change Conference**

Park Public School has extended an invitation to attend a mini “Me to We” Conference at the school on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. A variety of “agents of change” from local groups and agencies have been invited to speak to students about how thoughts and actions can have a positive impact on our world, and ourselves.

**vi. World Robotics – Governor Simcoe Secondary School**

Last week the Governor Simcoe Simbotics Team 1114, ranking 1<sup>st</sup> in the world, competed at the 2015 FIRST Robotics World Championship in St. Louis where they finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world. In addition, Karthik Kanagasbapathy, who has been mentoring the Governor Simcoe Simbotics Team for over 7 years, won the GM FIRST Mentor of the Year Award. Congratulations to everyone involved.

**vii. Ultimate Gaming Challenge**

The Ultimate Gaming Challenge took place this past weekend with 371 gamers and 300 spectators from across Canada and the U.S. participating in the sold out event.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(c) Director’s Update to Trustees****viii. Technology for Girls Camp**

The Technology for Girls Camp took place this past weekend with 60 Grades 5, 6 and 7 students from DSBN elementary schools participating.

Trustee Crouch thanked all the recipients for their contributions to students. Trustee Maves commended Dino Miele for receiving the well deserved ORION Leadership Award and for bringing recognition to the Board.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Barnett commended the Learning Team from Port Weller Public School for their extraordinary contributions.

**2. Educational Showcase****(a) ”Little Shop of Horrors” Presentation by Governor Simcoe Secondary School Arts Program**

Superintendent McGregor introduced the showcase which featured Governor Simcoe Secondary School’s production of “Little Shop of Horrors.”

Principal Bill Klassen commended the 100 students and 14 staff who have worked tirelessly on the school’s production of “Little Shop of Horrors” which will be presented on May 1 and 2; and May 8 and 9. Principal Klassen recognized staff members Rassika Risko and Gwen Stickney for their leadership and commitment to students.

Students performed a number from the production.

Vice-Chair Robinson commended the students on an exciting performance and thanked the students for sharing their talents.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Barnett thanked the staff and students for presenting the showcase.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS****1. Graduation Rates**

Superintendent McGregor presented a report on the DSBN and Provincial Graduation Rate. Superintendent McGregor noted that this is the first year the Ministry of Education has released graduation rates for each School Board and it was calculated by the Ministry based on the tracking of students who started Grade 9 in the 2009-2010 school year.

Superintendent McGregor provided an overview of the five year graduation rate which shows the District School Board of Niagara's graduation rate by the end of 2013-2014 for the cohort of students who entered Grade 9 in the 2009-2010 school year is 84%. Superintendent McGregor explained that 9% of these students are still attending a secondary school in Ontario and that the remaining 7% are considered early school leavers. Superintendent McGregor added that the Provincial five year graduation rate is also 84%. Superintendent McGregor recognized the dedication of our schools and staff for their support of students' success through the implementation of a wide variety of strategies and programs.

2. Director Hoshizaki called a Point of Order and provided the Student Trustees with an opportunity to announce the outcome of the recent Student Trustee election.

Student Trustee Sharma reported that elections for the positions of Student Trustee (2015-2016 term) took place at the April 21, 2015, meeting of the Student Trustee Senate. Student Trustee Sharma introduced Justin Dubé (Welland Centennial Secondary School) and he read Justin's biography. Student Trustee Molkoski introduced Katelynn Hilborn (Stamford Collegiate) and he read Katelynn's biography.

Trustee Schaubel thanked the twelve candidates for applying for the position of Student Trustee.

**H. DELEGATIONS**

There were no Delegations.

**I. BOARD RECESS**

There was no Board recess.



**J. OLD BUSINESS****1. ACCOUNTS**

Moved by Linda Crouch  
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1523 to 1535, for the month of March 2015, totalling \$17,907,605.42 be received.”

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi  
Seconded by Dale Robinson

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated April 9, 2015, be received.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Ajandi provided a summary and highlights of the report. Vice-Chair Robinson added that she and Superintendent Dickson will attend the Provincial SEAC Conference on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Toronto.

**3. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated April 13, 2015, be received;” and

“In 2015/16 both the Grade 5 and Grade 6 students of Glen Ridge School would join the Intermediate students transitioning to Oakridge School and that Glen Ridge School would be organized as a K-4 school;” and

“That the Program and Planning Committee receive the report on the new Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines: Summary of Changes for review and discussion.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the report and discussion on the recommended motions.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****3. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Director Hoshizaki clarified for Trustee Crouch that the process and timelines for consultation on the new Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines will be discussed at the next Program and Planning Committee meeting.

**4. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Moved by Kevin Maves  
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated April 15, 2015, be received;” and

“That staff be authorized to enter into a contract with Kelly Services for the provision of temporary secretarial/clerical staffing services for a 5-year term for the period August 1, 2015, to July 31, 2020;” and

“That the low bid received from STF Construction Ltd., in the amount of \$586,995 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the Curtain Wall Replacement Project at Grimsby Secondary School;” and

“That the low bid received from Scott Construction, in the amount of \$868,450 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the Schools-First Child Care Renovations project at Steele Street, Ross and Parnall Schools;” and

“That the Interim Financial Report for the period ending February 28, 2015, be received.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Maves provided a summary of the report and discussion on the recommended motions. Trustee Maves commended Superintendent Veld and Rick Werezak, Chief Financial Officer, for their work in keeping the Board financially sound.

**5. REPORT OF THE AD HOC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Moved by Dale Robinson  
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the report of the Ad Hoc Governance Committee dated April 16, 2015, be received.”

**CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Robinson provided a summary of the report.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****6. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated April 21, 2015, be received.”

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Sharma and Molkoski provided a summary and highlights of the meeting which included the election for Student Trustees (2015-2016 term).

Student Trustee Molkoski noted that at the recent OSTA-AECO Board Council Conference held in Ottawa, he and Student Trustee Sharma participated in an evaluation of the new Health and Physical Education Curriculum which involved looking at Mental Health within the four strands of the Curriculum. From this experience, a position paper was developed which will be shared with the Trustees.

Trustee Schaubel commended the Board for giving students a voice through the Student Trustee Senate and he thanked Student Trustees Molkoski and Sharma for their contributions to the Board.

Trustee Helga Campbell commended Student Trustee Molkoski on his 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**

There were no Staff Reports.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

Prior to the Board Meeting, Trustees participated in a Trustee Information Session on *Governance*.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****3. Correspondence and Communication**

1. Chair Barnett reported that she received correspondence from Carousel Players thanking the Board for supporting the initiatives provided in schools by Carousel Players.
2. Chair Barnett reported that she received correspondence from the Brain Injury Reentry Program commending the Board for facilitating the recent excellent International Concussion Summit.
3. Trustee Helga Campbell commended Director Hoshizaki and the Board for hosting the well presented and informative International Concussions Summit which is a testament to the innovative things taking place in the Board.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Trustee Ajandi reported that she was invited to adjudicate Woodland Public School's recent "Creative Minds" Art Show. Trustee Ajandi commended the school and students on a successful event.
- (b) Trustee Keddy Scott gave a reminder that a celebration of Vineland Public School will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- (c) Trustee Keddy Scott gave a reminder of Beamsville District Secondary School's upcoming production of Cinderella.
- (d) Trustee Lora Campbell reported that the recent well attended DSBN Road Race raised over \$10,000 in support of Nutrition Programs in schools.
- (e) Chair Barnett reported that she attended Connaught Public School's recent 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Chair Barnett commended the school and everyone involved in organizing and promoting the successful event.
- (f) Chair Barnett gave a reminder of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual DSBN Heritage Fair at the Niagara Falls History Museum on May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>. An Open House will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Further information on events and news happening within the Board can be found at [www.dsbno.org](http://www.dsbno.org) and/or on the schools' websites.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****5. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report**

Trustee Ajandi provided a summary and highlights of the April 24 and 25<sup>th</sup> OPSBA Board of Directors, as follows:

- Discussion took place on the Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines and the strengthened goal to work with municipalities. It was confirmed that these are suggested Guidelines only and that Boards are permitted to work above this minimum standard when developing their own local policies.
- Discussion took place on how funding for new builds may include space for daycare operations, and on the importance of maintaining strong municipal working relationships as the funding and implementation of service delivery for daycares will still be City run. There has been no discussion on including third party or private run daycares.
- A report on the Early Years Program was presented with respect to the implementation of the *Child Care Modernization Act* which received Royal Assent in December 2014. OPSBA will be preparing a submission on a number of issues, including increasing access to licensed before and after school programs, updating Health and Safety Standards, and replacing outdated terminology for children with Special Needs. OPSBA will also be collecting information from Boards across the Province regarding how much Boards are charging for childcare spaces.
- Discussion took place on Bill 20, *Ryan's Law (Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools)*, which requires all Boards to establish and maintain an asthma policy.
- A report was presented by the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth with Mental Health on the March 17, 2015, meeting with the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth with Mental Health and Directors from Education, Children and Youth Services, Health and Long Term Care, and Training, Colleges and Universities to ensure that the momentum to promote cross-sectoral collaboration in supporting children and youth with issues of Mental Health is sustained based on the 10 year strategy.
- School Boards will be drafting letters to the Premier's Office requesting Trustee representation on the Community Hub Framework Advisory Group.
- The First Nations Council reported that an advocacy paper is being developed in support of mandatory Ontario Curriculum on the histories of residential schooling, Treaty rights, etc. which will be brought forward to OPSBA at a later date.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****5. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report**

- The Clean Audit - Audited Report was presented and approved.
- The OPSBA budget was presented and approved.

Trustee Ajandi gave a reminder of OPSBA's Annual General Meeting being held in Collingwood, June 11-14, 2015.

Trustee Helga Campbell questioned who is making decisions regarding community hubs in the absence of School Board and municipal representation on the Community Hub Framework Advisory Group. Trustee Ajandi explained that the membership was announced by the Premier's Office and OPSBA has sent a letter to the Premier and the Minister of Education expressing concerns that among the nine members on the Advisory Group there is no School Board representation. School Boards are encouraged to send letters supporting OPSBA's position on the importance of having Trustee representation on the Advisory Group.

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

**MOTION**

**Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi**

**“That a letter be sent on behalf of the Board to the Premier and Minister of Education regarding the membership / representation on the Community Hub Framework Advisory Group.”**

**CARRIED**

**6. Future Meetings**

The calendar of May 2015 meetings was provided.

Future meetings of the Ad Hoc Governance Committee will be confirmed.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Helga Campbell  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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**SUE BARNETT**, Chair

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