



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

January 27, 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, Diane Chase, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves, Dave Schaubel

Regrets: Student Trustees Nick Molkoski and Vinay Sharma

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, 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: Wendy Coit

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.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

**Moved by Diane Chase
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

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

CARRIED

**Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Chair Barnett recognized the Brock Faculty of Education students who were in the gallery.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Stamford Collegiate Trio, on video.

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in remembrance of Peter Doan, Human Resources Senior Manager (Retired), who recently passed away.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Jennifer Ajandi opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

**Moved by Diane Chase
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

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

Moved by Linda Crouch
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated January 13, 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 Kevin Maves

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

CARRIED

Chair Barnett reported that in Committee of the Whole, the Trustees were informed that the District School Board of Niagara has reached an agreement to sell the former Niagara District Secondary School property to The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Town is purchasing the site, located at 1875 Niagara Stone Road, for its full appraised value of \$1.67 million.

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Transportation Coordinators, Niagara Student Transportation Services**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Transportation Coordinators Ken Sandham, Ann Erb, Jeff Friesen, Heather Kyle, Terri Capone and Brian Nesbitt for their 75 years of combined experience in Student Transportation, and for their exemplary commitment to serving students and schools in their specific geographic area within Niagara. During the 2014-2015 back to school period, collectively, the Transportation Coordinators processed over 100,000 student changes. Director

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Transportation Coordinators, Niagara Student Transportation Services**

Hoshizaki added that the Transportation Coordinators go above and beyond to respond to the needs of schools while working under pressure with grace, personality, professionalism, integrity and eagerness.

Director Hoshizaki presented Ken Sandham, Ann Erb, Jeff Friesen, Heather Kyle, Terri Capone and Brian Nesbitt with a token of the Board’s appreciation for their extraordinary contributions.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Barnett expressed the Board’s appreciation for the dedication of the Transportation Coordinators in addressing transportation needs, and for supporting Trustees, staff, and students.

(b) Director’s Update to Trustees**i. Teacher Exchange Program**

Australian Johanna Presgrave and her family, and DSBN teacher Len Janzen and his family, recently began a year-long Exchange Program. Best of luck to Ms. Presgrave and Mr. Janzen as they settle into their new surroundings and teaching assignments.

ii. Proud of Our Brock Connections! I

The Brock Mentorship Program allows Secondary Senior Academic students the unique opportunity to work with a Brock Mentor in various areas of discipline. The Program is a competitive program and students apply for the opportunity to participate while they are in Grade 11. Stamford Collegiate is proud to have two students selected to participate in the program. Julie Mai is working in the area of Mathematics to determine if Bottlenose Dolphins in the coastal waters of Laguna are really demonstrating social behaviour. Courtney Cutts is working in the Physics Department where she is creating a slouch detector to see if the device can help people improve their posture. Good luck to Julie and Courtney when they make their final presentations of their finds at Brock University in February.

iii. First Nations, Métis and Inuit – Student Voice Leadership Conference

The Board viewed a video which highlighted some of the students who participated in the recent FNMI Student Voice Leadership Conference.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(b) Director’s Update to Trustees****iv. Full Steam Ahead!**

Congratulations to Stamford Collegiate Senior Auto Shop students under the direction of Mr. McIntee for transforming a tractor into the “Stamford Express” float for the Santa Parade. The Town of Dunnville was so impressed by the students’ work they used the float to carry Santa in their own parade and promised to store it for next year.

v. Laura Secord Secondary School Jazzed It Up on New Year’s Eve!

Congratulations to the Laura Secord Secondary School Music Department under the direction of Mr. Sisler for being invited to provide a Jazz Choir for a performance by Canadian Pop music star, Lights, on her song “Banner” for the Global TV-ET Canada New Year’s Eve show from Victoria Park in Niagara Falls. The Jazz Choir performed flawlessly! The Trustees viewed a short video of the students’ performance.

vi. Come Back to Kindergarten Event!

This morning, January 27th, community leaders and media gathered to take part in an hour long Kindergarten program to see how the DSBN supports the educational needs of its youngest students. Participants had the opportunity to engage in play-based experiences that help young children learn. The following community “Classmates of 2029” participated:

- Warren Hoshizaki, DSBN Director of Education
- Dale Robinson, Vice-Chair, DSBN Board of Trustees
- The Honourable Jim Bradley, MPP for St. Catharines
- Dr. Andrea Feller, Niagara’s Associate Medical Officer of Health
- Angela Zangari, Executive Vice-President, Finance And Operations, Niagara Health System
- Bill Burke, Owner and Governor, Niagara Ice Dogs
- Dr. MaryLouise Vanderlee, Brock University Professor
- Darlene Edgar, Executive Director of Children’s Services at Region of Niagara
- Graham Knott, Ice Dog and Governor Simcoe Secondary School student

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(b) Director’s Update to Trustees****vi. Come Back to Kindergarten Event!**

Thank you to Jennifer Smith, Early Years Consultant; and Heather Gorham-Nowell, Early Years Support Teacher, for facilitating the event.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Barnett thanked everyone who took part in this educational day.

2. Educational Showcase**(a) Leveled Literacy Intervention Program at James Morden Public School and Princess Margaret Public School**

Superintendent Roberto introduced the showcase which highlighted the Leveled Literacy Intervention Program at James Morden Public School and Princess Margaret Public School.

Lora Stotski, Early Intervention Teacher, provided a brief overview of the program and highlighted student successes in the program.

Jennifer Grosvenor, Teacher at Princess Margaret Public School; and Sharon Schell, Teacher at James Morden Public School, gave testimonials in support of the program.

Georgia, Grade 2 student at James Morden Public School, read a short passage for the Board.

Ms. Stotski also presented written testimonials from parents and staff, and a video of parent Mrs. Andres who spoke of the positive impact of the program, and a video of two students in the Leveled Literacy Intervention Program who spoke of how the program helped them with their reading and literacy.

Director Hoshizaki added that this program has a positive impact on the lives of children and families and he thanked staff for supporting the program and for their role in its success.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Barnett recognized the positive difference the program makes on student learning and literacy.

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. ACCOUNTS

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers from 1486 to 1495 for the month of December 2014, totalling \$15,812,233.25, be received.”

CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Helga Campbell

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated January 15, 2015, be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that 14 cases were reviewed and discussed and strategies were recommended for the students' success.

OLD BUSINESS – continued:**3. 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 January 15, 2015, be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Ajandi provided a summary and highlights of the report which included:

- a report by student Ryan Smith on the November 2014 Reaction for Inclusion Conference;
- a review of the Identification, Placement and Review Committee and Placements in the Special Education Report;
- a review of the funding structure for Special Education;
- an update on an initiative in the Region involving four Ministries which will provide a more comprehensive approach in supporting families of children with complex needs who are involved in various community organizations.

4. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (handout at meeting)

**Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated January 27, 2015, be received and the recommendations adopted.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves provided a summary and highlights of the report and the recommended motions, which included:

2014-2015 Revised Estimates and Interim Financial Report

“That the 2014-2015 Revised Estimates, reflecting updated enrolments for October 31, 2014, and the resulting changes in revenues and expenditures, as submitted to the Ministry of Education, be approved.”

“That the Interim Financial Report for the period ending October 31, 2014, be received.”

Superintendent of Business Services, Stacy Veld, clarified for Trustee Fast that items for 2015-2016 Budget consideration are to be submitted by the end of March and that in February the Trustees will be provided with timelines for submitting.

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 the following Information Sessions:

- (a) Media and Public Relations - presented by Kim Yielding, Manager of Communications, Public Relations and Printing Services; and Brett Sweeney, Communications Officer
- (b) Transportation - presented by Superintendent Lora Courtois, and Lori Powell, Executive Director of Niagara Student Transportation Services

3. Correspondence and Communication

- (a) In accordance with DSNB By-Law L-8, The Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) is a separate incorporated charitable organization and not a Committee of the Board. Four Trustees were asked to serve as Directors on the EFN Board of Directors with the understanding such service is over and above a Trustee's obligation for involvement in Board Committee work.

Trustees Lora Campbell, Cheryl Keddy Scott, and Kevin Maves, and Chair Barnett expressed their interest in serving as Directors on the EFN Board of Directors. Trustee Diane Chase will act as an Alternate.

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

- (a) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that she and Superintendent Pisek attended Family Literacy Day today at Park Public School in Grimsby. Trustee Keddy Scott commended the school for hosting the well organized community event.
- (b) Trustee Keddy Scott gave a reminder of an upcoming event on March 31st at Grimsby Secondary School where the keynote speaker will address the issue of brain changes in teenage years and the affect on parent/child communications.
- (c) Vice-Chair Robinson reported that in addition to the morning Kindergarten event, she attended Jeanne Sauvé French Immersion Public School this afternoon where students in Grades 2 and 4 were reading to each other in French in recognition of Family Literacy Day. Vice-Chair Robinson noted the good interaction between the groups of students.
- (d) Trustee Helga Campbell reported that Westlane Secondary School has produced a video on Mental Health, and a link to the video will be sent to the Trustees.

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

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

Trustee Ajandi gave a reminder of Public Education Symposium from January 29-31, 2015. Trustee Ajandi reported that OPSBA has requested submissions from School Boards which highlight exemplary environmental leadership and sustainability and the DSBN will be making a submission on the benefits of Woodend.

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of February 2015 meetings was provided.

Chair Barnett gave a reminder of the upcoming Winter Gala in support of Woodend. Chair Barnett also gave a reminder of the upcoming "Off the Wall" Art Show at the Education Centre and she encouraged Trustees to enjoy the students' artwork prior to the Board meeting on February 10th.

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Diane Chase
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

SUE BARNETT, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer