



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

June 22, 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

Regrets: Trustee Dave Schaubel, Student Trustee Nick Molkoski, Student Trustee 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 7:27 p.m. and noted the absence of Trustee Dave Schaubel, Student Trustee Nick Molkoski, and Student Trustee Vinay Sharma.

Chair Barnett welcomed visitors from the Grapeview Public School and the Dalewood French Immersion Public School communities.

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) with respect to an update on Negotiations.

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 Diane Chase
Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:21 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

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

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Cheryl Keddy Scott opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Linda Crouch
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

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

Moved by Diane Chase
Seconded by Kevin Maves

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 9, 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 Jennifer Ajandi
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

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

CARRIED

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Selma Basic, Parent Volunteer, Grapeview Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Selma Basic for her dedicated volunteer service at Grapeview Public School. In addition to attending Parent Council meetings, participating in assemblies and helping with pizza days, Ms. Basic initiated a fundraising event called "Cakes for Autism" to raise awareness of Autism. Funds from the monthly cake raffle support outings and activities for two Communication classes at Grapeview.

Director Hoshizaki presented Selma Basic with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her extraordinary contributions to students.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(b) Recognition of Sébastien Pereira, Volunteer, Dalewood French Immersion Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Sébastien Pereira for his dedicated volunteer service at Dalewood French Immersion Public School. In addition to helping out with events such as Camp Dalewood, La Ste-Catherine, and Mardi Gras-Carnaval, and attending information nights at the school, Mr. Pereira works with teachers in the classroom to support Math education and the TRIBES program.

Director Hoshizaki presented Sébastien Pereira with a token of the Board’s appreciation for his extraordinary contributions to students.

On behalf of the Board, Trustee Ajandi thanked Selma Basic for her service to students and the Board.

On behalf of the Board, Trustee Lora Campbell thanked Sébastien Pereira for his service to students and the Board.

(c) Director’s Update to Trustees**i. DSBN Special Olympics**

The DSBN annual Special Olympics event took place Wednesday, June 10, 2015, bringing together over 625 DSBN secondary and elementary students who participated in events including long jump, standing long jump, ball throw, shot put, noodle throw, frisbee throw, beanbag toss, 10, 25, 50 and 100 m races and team relay races.

Thank you to the student participants as well as the students, teachers and parent volunteers for making it a fun and meaningful day that celebrated the special education students’ strengths and abilities.

ii. Mexican Students Visit DSBN

Thank you to the staff and students of Grapeview Public School who hosted 20 Grade 7/8 students from Mexico for a 2-week cultural camp in May. The international visitors benefited by participating in classrooms along with the Grapeview students and from extra-curricular activities every day after school. The DSBN students and families who hosted them benefited by spending time getting to know their international guests, learning a few words of Spanish, and exchanging different aspects of their respective cultures.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(c) Director’s Update to Trustees****iii. E.L. Crossley Brings Home the Medals at the 70th Canadian SS Rowing Championship**

Earlier this month, E.L Crossley Secondary School’s Rowing team competed at the 70th Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Championships in St. Catharines. Crossley Rowers pushed hard through the 3 day regatta, placing 16 of its 21 crews into the finals – the most of any school. The team captured 8 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze medals. The team also captured the Men’s National Championship and finished a close second in the Women’s National Championship. Under the leadership of teacher and coach, John Ruscitti, along with numerous other coaches and volunteers, this is the 13th year in a row that E.L. Crossley Secondary School has been atop the standings at this National regatta. Congratulations to all the participants and medal winners.

iv. Communications and Public Relations Department Recognized

Congratulations to the DSBN Communications and Public Relations Department staff for being recognized with several awards from the National School Public Relations Association.

Golden Achievement Award: (recognizes exemplary work in all aspects of school public relations, communication, marketing and engagement)

- *Come Back to Kindergarten Campaign*

Special Purpose Publication – Award of Excellence:

- *Bringing Harriet Home Fundraising Campaign*

Excellence in Writing – Award of Excellence:

- *Brett Sweeney, APR, Communication Officer*

Special Purpose Publication – Award of Excellence:

- *Oliver's Big Bump — Concussion Education Resource for Schools*

Video – Honourable Mention (Bronze)

- *You Belong on the Red Carpet (High School Open Houses)*

Magazine – Award of Merit (Silver)

- *Make the Move (to High School at the DSBN)*

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(c) Director’s Update to Trustees****iv. Communications and Public Relations Department Recognized*****Finance Publication – Award of Merit (Silver)***

- *2014-15 Budget*

v. Walker Living Campus Grand Opening

The Walker Living Campus grand opening took place on Thursday, June 18, 2015. Many DSBN staff and students participated in the event including the Power Glen PS Bucket Drummers, students in the St. Catharines Collegiate SHSM Hospitality program, two students from Laura Secord Secondary School who provided musical entertainment and a student from Fort Erie Secondary School who was the photographer for the day. The celebration marked the culmination of six years of planning and fundraising as well as the hard work and dedication from many people. Thanks to Kevin Graham and his team for making it an inspirational and exciting event for all who attended.

2. Educational Showcases

There were no Educational Showcases.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There was no report.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no Board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCOUNTS

**Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1555 to 1567 for the month of May 2015, totalling \$17,628,547.71, 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 June 11, 2015, be received.”

CARRIED

Vice-Chair Robinson provided a verbal summary of the report.

3. REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Kevin Maves**

“That the report of the Audit Committee dated June 15, 2015, be received; and

“That KPMG be appointed external auditors for the District School Board of Niagara for a one-year term commencing September 1, 2015.”

CARRIED

Trustee Fast provided a verbal summary of the report and the recommended motion.

OLD BUSINESS – continued:**4. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated June 16, 2015, be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott provided a verbal summary of the report. In response to a question, Superintendent McGregor clarified that each student is reviewed on a case by case basis and that many students have connections to other community supports.

5. REPORT OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the report of the Policy Advisory Committee dated June 16, 2015, be received;” and

“That Policy B-08: Records Management be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy C-02: Adult & Community Education (ACE) Operational Framework be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy A-18: Environmental Sustainability be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy D-02: Selection, Approval and Review of Educational Resources be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-14: Out of School Programs/Events be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-29: Safe and Accepting Schools: Bullying Prevention and Intervention be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy E-03: Health and Safety be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy E-14: Police Criminal Record Check – Police Vulnerable Sector Check for Service Providers be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy E-15: Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention be approved as received and adopted;” and

OLD BUSINESS – continued:**5. REPORT OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

“That Policy G-01: School Volunteers be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-24: On-Site/Off-Site Evacuation be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-37: Asthma Friendly Schools be approved as modified and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-12: Alcohol, Drug and Substance Use and Abuse be approved as received and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-28: Student Discipline be approved as modified and adopted.”

Trustee Keddy Scott noted that the Policy Advisory Committee is recommending that the recommended motion be approved as presented to the Board.

There were no objections to Trustee Chase’s request that Policy G-28: Student Discipline and Policy G-29: Safe and Accepting Schools: Bullying Prevention and Intervention be considered separately, or to Trustee Crouch’s request that Policy E-14: Police Criminal Record Check – Police Vulnerable Sector Check for Service Providers be considered separately.

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott

Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the recommended motion of the Policy Advisory Committee as presented be approved and adopted save and except for Policy G-28: Student Discipline, Policy G-29: Safe and Accepting Schools: Bullying Prevention and Intervention, and Policy E-14: Police Criminal Record Check – Police Vulnerable Sector Check for Service Providers.”

CARRIED

Moved by Diane Chase

Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That Policy G-28: Student Discipline, and Policy G-29: Safe and Accepting Schools: Bullying Prevention and Intervention, be referred back to the Policy Advisory Committee for input from the Parent Involvement Committee.”

DEFEATED

OLD BUSINESS – continued:**5. REPORT OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Chase spoke to the motion explaining that the rationale for referring the Policies to the Parent Involvement Committee for input reflects the role of the Parent Involvement Committee in the development and implementation of Board Policies.

Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, explained that the recommended revisions to Policy G-28: Student Discipline, are housekeeping items. Brenda Stokes Verworn reminded the Trustees that the substantive content of Policy G-28 is prescriptive and in compliance with mandated Provincial Safe Schools legislation, Regulations, and Ministry of Education Program Policy Memoranda. Policy G-29 is also mandated by the Province. Brenda Stokes Verworn suggested that alternatively an information session be presented to the Parent Involvement Committee to explain Policies G-28 and G-29, and to provide the Committee members with an opportunity to ask questions.

A brief discussion followed on the mandated role of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) with respect to parent engagement and input into Policy development.

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

“That Policy G-28: Student Discipline be approved as modified and adopted;” and

“That Policy G-29: Safe and Accepting Schools: Bullying Prevention and Intervention be approved as received and adopted.”

CARRIED

**Moved by Jennifer Ajandi
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

“That Policy E-14: Police Criminal Record Check – Police Vulnerable Sector Check for Service Providers be referred back to the Policy Advisory Committee for further discussion.”

DEFEATED

Superintendent Morgan explained that Policy E-14 applies to service providers who are individuals who come into regular direct contact with students and that Policy E-14 does not apply to Board employees.

OLD BUSINESS – continued:**5. REPORT OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That Policy E-14: Policy Criminal Record Check – Police Vulnerable Sector Check for Service Providers be approved as received and adopted.”

CARRIED

6. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated June 17, 2015, be received;” and

“That the 2010-2014 Absence Study Report be received as information;” and

“That the low bid received from Bromac Construction, in the amount of \$10,157,900 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the construction of the new West Fort Erie Elementary School;” and

“That authority be delegated to the Director of Education and the Superintendent of Business Services jointly to approve the award of contracts and property matters in July and August that would otherwise require Finance Committee, Property Disposal Committee and Board approval, and report such approvals at the September 2015 Finance Committee and Property Disposal Committee meetings;” and

“That the Interim Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2015, be received;” and

“That \$60,000 of the 2014-15 year end surplus be carried forward to the 2015-16 budget to support the Mental Health Strategy.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves provided a verbal summary of the report and the recommended motions. Trustee Maves commended the Communications and Public Relations Department for designing the Board’s 2015-2016 Budget brochure.

Trustee Helga Campbell commended Superintendent Dickson for his role in developing the Board’s Mental Health Strategy. Trustee Helga Campbell provided an update on the status and implementation of aspects of the Regional Health Charter which impact on schools.

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

There was no Trustee Information Session.

3. Correspondence and Communication

There was no Correspondence and Communication.

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Trustee Helga Campbell commended Kim Yielding, Manager of the Communications and Public Relations Department, on her recent CBC interview.
- (b) Trustee Helga Campbell noted that the Board and the Special Education Advisory Committee were acknowledged by the Premier and Minister of Education for their commitment to improving programs and services for students with special education needs.
- (c) Chair Barnett reported that on Friday, June 19th, she attended Laura Secord Secondary School Music Department's "Sing Across The World Concert," where the world premiere of the recorded song "Touch the Sky" was debuted. Proceeds of the global fundraising event will support children living in The Democratic Republic of Congo through World Vision Canada Child Sponsorship. Chair Barnett commended the school's Music Department under the leadership of David Sisler for providing students with experiences outside the classroom.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:

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

Trustees Ajandi and Helga Campbell provided highlights of the 2015 OPSBA Conference and Annual General Meeting held in Collingwood June 11-13.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association is available at www.opsba.org.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of September 2015 meetings was provided and amended as follows:

September 3 Trustees Retreat

September 14 Audit Committee - 5:30 p.m.

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Dale Robinson
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

SUE BARNETT, Chair

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