



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**October 22, 2013**

6:45 – 7:30 p.m. (Private Session)

7:30 – 11:00 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, Barbara Ness, Dale Robinson, Dave Schaubel

**Student Trustees:** Tara Lundy and 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, Joe Weinberg, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Marian Lamb

**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 Kevin Maves called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:30 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 Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

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

**CARRIED**

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy  
Seconded by Dalton Clark**

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:53 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

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

**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 Barbara Ness  
Seconded Dale Robinson**

**“That the Agenda be adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 8, 2013, 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 Lora Campbell

“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 Tracy Sacco, Secondary Principal, Alternative Education**

Director Hoshizaki presented a video of Tracy Sacco being presented the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship by The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. The Award recognizes individuals who, through exceptional long-term efforts, have made outstanding contributions to their communities. Tracy was nominated for this prestigious Award by the Niagara Regional Police Service for all her efforts to support at risk students and families in our communities. Director Hoshizaki added that throughout her 29 years of service to the Board Tracy has made a positive impact on students and she has demonstrated her belief that all students can succeed no matter what challenges they face.

Director Hoshizaki presented Tracy Sacco with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her outstanding service to students, the Board, and the community.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(b) Director’s Update to Trustees****i. Teacher Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw Honoured**

Teacher Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw was recently honoured by the Ontario History and Social Science Teachers’ Association for her outstanding contributions to the teaching of History. Throughout her more than 25 years of teaching, Elizabeth has brought History to life and supported student learning.

**ii. Masa Song – Stamford Collegiate Student**

Masa Song was recognized for her support of the Terry Fox Foundation. Recently, Masa had her first ever haircut in front of the student body during a morning assembly. In honour of her late mother, Masa donated more than four feet of her hair to “Wigs for Kids.”

**iii. Concussion Summit**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Concussion Summit will take place from October 24 – 25 in Niagara Falls. The Conference brings together educators, coaches and respected leaders in the field of concussion research, diagnosis and treatment, and will provide valuable guidance and insight into developing appropriate concussion guidelines and policies, safety measures designed to reduce the risk for student athletes, and strategies to assist students’ return to class following an injury.

Trustee Clark commended Tracy Sacco on being awarded the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship. Trustee Clark added that Ms. Sacco is well respected by students and staff for her dedication to students.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves congratulated Tracy Sacco on her recognition and thanked her for her outstanding service to students, the Board and the community.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****2. Sky's the Limit at Nelles Public School**

Superintendent Kelly Pisek introduced the showcase.

Principal Sara Dedivitiis, Instructional Coach Kara Baranoski, and Learning Resource Teacher Dawn Hunchak, along with students presented a showcase of student learning at Nelles Public School which highlighted goal setting and the importance of school to home communication and connections. The school's Welcome Back Together video, which was based on The Sky's the Limit theme, was presented.

Trustee Keddy commended Nelles Public School for engaging parents in student learning.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked Nelles Public School for their presentation.

**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 Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1255 to 1273 for the month of September 2013, totalling \$18,221,661.95 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****2. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (SAL) COMMITTEE**

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

**“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee dated October 4, 2013, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Schaubel reported that the Committee reviewed 10 cases and developed strategies for the students' success. Trustee Schaubel commended the Committee members for their dedication to students.

**3. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC)**

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

**“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated October 9, 2013, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Dale Robinson provided a summary of the report which included planning for the upcoming November 6<sup>th</sup> Parent Involvement Committee. Trustee Bradnam added that the Committee has submitted a letter to the Minister of Education expressing its concerns regarding hiring practices under Ontario Regulation 274/12 and its negative impact on student learning.

**4. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)**

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

**“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) dated October 10, 2013, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Alex Bradnam provided a summary of the report.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued:****5. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (Handout)**

Moved by Dalton Clark  
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated October 22, 2013, be received and the recommendation adopted.”

**CARRIED**

Trustee Dalton Clark provided a summary of the report which dealt with awarding a contract for the Year 5 Full Day Kindergarten renovations at Lockview Public School. Trustee Clark noted the Committee is recommending Bromac Construction Inc. as the successful bidder.

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

No questions were 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**

- (a) Trustee Alex Bradnam reported that the Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) has sent a letter to the Minister of Education, and copied to The Honourable Premier Kathleen Wynne and local MPPs, expressing the Committee's concerns that the District School Board of Niagara continues to be significantly underfunded in Special Education, and that the underfunding affects students and creates financial constraints for the Board. A brief discussion followed with Trustees expressing their concerns that the Board is the second lowest funded in

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

Special Education in Ontario and that the Board has been underfunded for many years. Trustees also noted that since 2007 the Board has written letters and lobbied Ministry officials and locally elected politicians regarding the underfunding, to no avail. Trustees agreed that the Board should continue to lobby the Ministry and local politicians and suggested that The Honourable Premier Kathleen Wynne, the Minister of Education, and local MPP be invited to the Board for a meeting to discuss the Board's concerns, and that candidates in the anticipated upcoming by-election be questioned on their position.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Vice-Chair Barnett noted that the Welland Tribune recently reported on Centennial Secondary School's success at the Welland Tribune Basketball Tournament. The Tribune also recognized a Port Colborne High School student's involvement in the Board's Specialist High Skills Major Program at the Roselawn Centre, and recognized an Eastdale Secondary School student who was recently named Youth Citizen of the Year.
- (b) Trustee Barbara Ness noted that former Student Trustee Mackenzie Ceci was recognized in the newspaper for being named Most Valuable Player at a recent Basketball tournament.
- (c) Trustee Lora Campbell reported that \$10,000 was raised at the recent Trivia Night held at Hernder Estate Wine in support of the Education Foundation of Niagara.
- (d) Trustee Lora Campbell gave a reminder of the upcoming Holiday Celebration Gala in support of the Education Foundation of Niagara being held at Club Italia on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are available by calling (905) 641-2929, Ext. 54103.
- (e) Trustee Alex Bradnam reported that he and Trustee Fulford attended the recent Children's Centre Gala at Club Roma where \$10,000 was raised in support of the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre. Trustee Bradnam also commended local schools for their fundraising efforts in support of the Children's Centre.
- (f) Trustee Robinson reported that she attended Thorold Secondary School's recent commitment signing event where Grade 9 students gathered in the gym to collectively and individually make a pledge to graduate from high school. The City of Thorold Mayor also attended to provide encouragement to the students to make the commitment to graduate. Trustee Robinson added that Thorold Secondary School may have a football field installed for its 2014 season.



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

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

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

Trustee Keddy noted that the Central West Meeting and Directors' Meeting will be held October 25/26, 2013, and a report will be brought to the Board at a future meeting.

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

**6. Future Meetings**

A calendar of November 2013 meetings was provided **and revised as follows:**

November 20	Finance Committee rescheduled to <b><u>November 26<sup>th</sup></u></b> , 5:30 p.m.
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**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Alex Bradnam**

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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