



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**September 10, 2013**

6:45 – 7:30 p.m. (Private Session)

7:30 – 11:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board:** Kevin Maves (Chair), Sue Barnett, Alex Bradnam, Lora Campbell, Dalton Clark, Jonathan Fast, Ed Fulford, Cheryl Keddy, Dale Robinson, Dave Schaubel

**Student Trustees:** Tara Lundy and Courtney Steingart

**Regrets:** Trustee Barbara Ness

**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, Peter Doan, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Marian Lamb

**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 Kevin Maves called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:40 p.m.

Chair Maves welcomed everyone to the first Board meeting of the school year. Chair Maves introduced Student Trustees Tara Lundy and Courtney Steingart, newly appointed Supervisory Officers Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, and JoAnna Roberto, and newly appointed Assistant Superintendent of Business Stacy Veld.

**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 Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

**CARRIED**

Moved by Cheryl Keddy  
Seconded by Dale Robinson

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:29 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the E. L. Crossley Secondary School Orchestra, on video clip.

**D. OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Lora Campbell opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

The Board stood and observed a moment of silence in memory of Christine Thompson, Supervisor of Planning, who passed away recently in a tragic accident.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Alex Bradnam  
Seconded by Ed Fulford

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 24, 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)**

This item was deferred to the end of the Regular meeting (Public Session).

**F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS****1. Director’s Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Rina Rode and John Haeni**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Teacher **Rina Rode** for her 26 years of service to students and the Board. Rina began teaching Physical Education at the secondary level in 1988 and since that time she has demonstrated her leadership and passion for students within schools and in the community. At the time of amalgamation in 1998 Rina was instrumental in merging teacher-coaches into the new Niagara Region High School Athletics Association and she has held numerous executive positions within NRHSAA and SOSSA. Rina has contributed to the shaping of school athletics across Southern Ontario. In 2008 Rina was appointed to a part time position as Athletic Coordinator within NRHSAA where she is responsible for coordinating the athletics for four School Boards and a number of independent schools. Rina is known as the voice and face of secondary athletics. Director Hoshizaki added that Rina is known for her poise and professionalism and for her dedication to supporting the best opportunities for students.

Director Hoshizaki presented Rina Rode with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her outstanding service to the Board and students.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(a) Recognition of Rina Rode and John Haeni**

Director Hoshizaki recognized **John Haeni** for dedicating over 46 years to working with students and helping them to grow and develop through athletics. John began his elementary school teaching career in 1967 and throughout his career John demonstrated his passion for students and athletics. Since his retirement 11 years ago, John has continued to work as DSBN's Elementary Athletic Coordinator for Interschool Sports. John is known for going above and beyond to ensure that every athletic event is successful and well executed. Director Hoshizaki also noted that when Interschool Sports resumed in April 2013 following the job action, John was prepared and he organized numerous events for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Director Hoshizaki recognized John for his dedication to DSBN athletics and for his commitment to providing students with the opportunity to participate in Interschool Sports and to represent their schools with pride.

Director Hoshizaki presented John Haeni with a token of the Board's appreciation for his outstanding service to the Board and students.

**(b) Recognition of Andy Dermatas and Kim Bartlett**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Teacher Andy Dermatas and Central Educational Assistant Kim Bartlett for their work with Special Education Olympics within the DSBN. Director Hoshizaki noted that approximately seven years ago, Andy recruited a diverse team of individuals to organize an annual Track and Field event for Special Education students to participate in a fun and meaningful day that celebrated the students' strengths and abilities. Since that time, Andy and Kim enlisted the support and expertise of Special Olympics Ontario and provincial qualifying events were established. At the 2012 Track and Field meet six DSBN students qualified for the Special Olympics Provincials held in July 2013. Andy and Kim ensured the students were prepared and accompanied them as coaches. Director Hoshizaki noted that Andy and Kim, along with their team, have gone above and beyond to provide this annual opportunity for DSBN students. Director Hoshizaki added that the event is promoted by Special Olympics Ontario as an exemplar for others to use in initiating meets throughout Ontario. Director Hoshizaki also recognized Team members which include Ryan Brens, Carmela Ianni, Ted Hansen, Bryn Keyes, Ryan Smelle, Gary Addison, Paul Hurd, John Haeni, Margo Halfyard, and Ron Lopez.

Andy and Kim addressed the Board and commended the Team members, and Board staff who have made the event possible and successful. Andy and Kim presented Director Hoshizaki with a poster

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued:****1. Director's Report and Recognition****(b) Recognition of Andy Dermatas and Kim Bartlett**

signed by the Summer Olympics 2013 athletes in recognition of the Board's support of the event.

Director Hoshizaki presented Andy Dermatas and Kim Bartlett with a token of the Board's appreciation for their outstanding service to the Board and students.

**(c) Recognition of Paul Beninger**

Director Hoshizaki reported that at a recent Welcome Back event at the Education Centre, Paul Beninger, the Board's Mail Room Clerk, was recognized for his service to the Board. In addition to carrying out his duties effectively and efficiently, Paul was commended for creating a friendly work environment at the Education Centre and for treating all levels of staff in the same manner. Paul's welcoming nature is appreciated by everyone.

**(d) DSBN Specialist High Skills Major - Construction**

Kevin Graham, Technological Consultant, Teacher Ken Willms, and all secondary schools were commended for their support of the SHSM – Construction Program. The 10<sup>th</sup> build in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Niagara was completed recently and the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> home builds in partnership with Parklane Homes have been started in Stevensville.

Trustee Barnett shared her experiences at the Special Olympics event and thanked everyone for their work. Trustees commended Rina and John for their dedication to students through their involvement in athletics and acknowledged all the people in schools who make a difference every day in the lives of students.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked everyone for their support of students.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS****1. Demonstration of Learning Initiative**

Superintendent Stainsby explained that the “Demonstration of Learning” initiative was developed to support student achievement at the Applied level in response to feedback in a student survey which asked students to identify what would help them to learn better. The goals of “Demonstration of Learning” are to increase student engagement in Grades 9 and 10 Applied classes, to enhance student achievement by increasing the number of students performing at the Provincial level or higher, and to support teacher practice in meeting student learning needs.

Superintendent Stainsby introduced Fred Louws, Student Achievement Leader - Student Success; Rick Karr, Principal of Governor Simcoe Secondary School; and Tammy Zonneveld, Principal of Beamsville District Secondary School. Fred Louws explained that in Semester 2 of the 2011-2012 school year, six secondary schools piloted the “Demonstration of Learning” initiative. Fred Louws provided an overview of how the initiative works which requires students to consistently demonstrate throughout the semester that they have learned the Curriculum expectations in a variety of ways through established criteria. Fred Louws also provided a summary of the data which shows the positive impact of “Demonstration of Learning” on student achievement. Fred Louws explained that a key component of the success of the initiative is honouring the student voice in moving the project forward. The involvement of the Principals, Vice-Principals, and Lead Teachers has also contributed to the success of the initiative.

Principal Karr commended Superintendent Stainsby for moving this initiative forward. Principal Karr shared the success of this initiative at Governor Simcoe Secondary School and its positive impact on students. Principal Zonneveld shared similar experiences at Beamsville District Secondary School. Principal Zonneveld added that keys to success were staff support and involvement and on-going communication with students and parents.

Fred Louws noted that the Ministry of Education has established a think tank to increase achievement in Applied classes and they have followed our Board’s progress in the “Demonstration of Learning” initiative. Fred Louws added that the initiative is being expanded in the 2013-2014 school year into all secondary schools and within Alternative Education. Superintendent Stainsby thanked all the Administrators for their eagerness to participate in this successful initiative.

Fred Louws explained for Trustees that buy in from parents is important to the success of the initiative as it represents a change in how education is delivered.

Trustees commended all the staff involved in this initiative for their support and dedication to student learning, and for seeking input from students on what they need to be more successful.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS – continued:****1. Demonstration of Learning Initiative**

On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked the staff for their presentation and added that the Board looks forward to seeing the outcome of the initiative from all schools next year.

**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 1216 to 1243 for the months of June and July 2013, totalling \$35,495,743.42, be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**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****(a) Summer Facilities Projects Update**

Superintendent Weinberg provided a summary and highlights of the extensive Facilities Projects that were completed during the summer. Superintendent Weinberg noted the completion and opening of the new Diamond Trail Public School and the Diamond Trail Branch of the

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued:****1. Staff Reports****(a) Summer Facilities Projects Update**

Welland Public Library. Superintendent Weinberg also noted the new “Curb Appeal” project which ensured that school grounds were maintained and well cared for during the summer. Superintendent Weinberg commended Colin Munro, Manager of Operations, for initiating the project. Superintendent Weinberg recognized the contribution and hard work of Managers and their staff from various Departments throughout the summer to ensure that projects were completed and schools were ready for the start of another school year.

Trustee Barnett requested that support staff be recognized for their countless hours of work to ensure schools were ready for September. On behalf of the Board, Chair Maves thanked all the staff involved in this impressive scope of work.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee Information Session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

**Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

**“That Stacy Veld be appointed as Assistant Superintendent of Business for the District School Board of Niagara, effective September 1, 2013, with the understanding that Stacy will continue to work towards fulfilling the requirements listed in Section 55 of Ontario Regulation 184/97 for obtaining an additional qualification as a Supervisory Officer.”**

**CARRIED**

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- (a) Trustee Bradnam commended the Communications Department for the quality of numerous advertisements published in local newspapers which highlight and promote our Board.
- (b) Trustee Barnett reported that she attended the recent 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Niagara Children’s Safety Village. Trustee Barnett noted that the Niagara Children’s Safety Village coordinates safety programs presented by the Fire Department and Police and that last year more than 7,000 students participated in various events.



**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.dsbns.org> and/or on the schools' websites.

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

Trustee Keddy reported that the OPSBA Board of Directors will meet in Toronto on September 27-28, 2013, and the Central West Region will meet on October 26, 2013, at the Thames Valley District School Board. Trustee Keddy noted that Penny Mustin has taken over the role of Director of Labour Relations as of September 1, 2013. Trustee Keddy added that the media has published an article on the Ministry of Education's release of information from research conducted at McMaster and Queen's Universities regarding the benefits of Full Day Kindergarten.

Trustee Fast requested that Trustee Keddy raise the issue with OPSBA of asking the Province to consider whether there are potential savings by having Niagara serve as a pilot for operating one School Board.

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

**6. Future Meetings**

The calendar for September 2013 meetings was provided and revised to include the following:

September 24                      Properties Disposal Committee – 5:00 p.m.

**MOTIONS**

**Moved by Dale Robinson  
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

**“That the Board do now return to Committee of the Whole.”**

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to Committee of the Whole at 8:40 p.m.

**MOTIONS – continued:**

**Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Ed Fulford**

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 9:00 p.m.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued:**

**4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session)**

**Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Dalton Clark**

**“That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session) be now ratified by the Board.”**

**CARRIED**

Chair Maves reported that in Committee of the Whole (Private Session) the Board accepted the retirements of Peter Doan, Human Resources Senior Manager, effective December 31, 2013; Patrice Johnson, Administrator – School Support Services, effective October 31, 2013; and Sharon Aloian, President – ETFO Niagara, effective June 30, 2013. Chair Maves recognized Peter, Patrice and Sharon for their years of service to the Board and, on behalf of the Board, wished them well in their retirement.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

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**KEVIN MAVES**, Chair

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