

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Education Centre

St. Catharines

6:15 - 7:00 p.m. [Private Session]

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. [Public Session]

A G E N D A

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory
2. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Motion to Move to Committee of the Whole (Private Session)
2. Motion to Return to Open Board (Public Meeting)

C. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

Connaught Public School students will perform 'O Canada'

D. REFLECTIVE READING

By Trustee Jonathan Fast

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Pages 7-24

Recommended Motion:

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated January 24, 2017 be confirmed as submitted; and

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated February 14, 2017 be confirmed as submitted.”

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole

Recommended Motion:

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

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS

1. Director’s Report and Recognition

W Hoshizaki
Pages 25-29

Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective

- a) Director’s Recognition – Judy Dunn, Caretaker, Oakridge P.S.
- b) Director’s Recognition – Lynda Frazer, Volunteer, River View P.S.
- c) Director’s Recognition – Spencer MacKenzie, Student, Ridgeway Crystal Beach H.S.
- d) Director’s Update to Trustees

2. Educational Showcases

- a) Kindness Month at Connaught P.S.

M Reimer Friesen

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

H. DELEGATIONS

1. Mayor Bob Bentley
2. Nicole Scime
3. Melissa LeBlanc

I. BOARD RECESS (Optional)

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCOUNTS

S Veld
Page 30

Recommended Motion:

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1859 to 1869, for the month of January 2017 totalling \$14,899,854.83 be received.”

2. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

D Robinson / J Ajandi
Pages 31-37

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated January 19, 2017 be received.”

3. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

H Campbell /L Campbell
Pages 38-39

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated February 1, 2017 be received.”

4. REPORT OF THE PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

D Schaubel
Pages 40-55

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated February 7, 2017 be received; and

That the report of the Educational Research Committee of November 17, 2016 be received; and

That the Secondary School Program Review for the Current School Year report be received; and

That the Secondary School Program Review for the Subsequent School Year 2017-2018 report be received; and

That the Online OSSLT Pilot update be received; and

That the report of the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars 2017-2018 be received and approved for submission to the Ministry of Education by March 1, 2017.”

5. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

L Campbell
Pages 56-59

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated February 8, 2017 be received.”

6. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

S Alazzam/K Luciani
Pages 60-61

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated February 22, 2017 be received.”

7. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

K Maves
Pages 62-67

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated February 22, 2017 be received; and

That the low bids received from 39 Seven Inc. in the amount of \$1,344,854 (plus HST) and \$1,308,625 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the synthetic turf field and running track projects at A.N. Myer and Centennial Secondary Schools respectively; and

That the low bids received from World Wide Turf Inc. in the amount of \$1,222,575 (plus HST) and \$1,212,345 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the synthetic turf field and running track projects at Governor Simcoe and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary Schools respectively; and

That the option prices received from 39 Seven Inc. in the amount of \$449,062 (plus HST) and \$420,550 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the bleachers and field lighting at A.N. Myer and Centennial Secondary Schools respectively; and

That the option prices received from World Wide Turf Inc. in the amount of \$371,500 (plus HST) and \$359,500 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the bleachers and field lighting at Governor Simcoe and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary Schools respectively.”

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

L. NEW BUSINESS

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Staff Reports

2. Trustee Information Session

3. Correspondence and Communications

- a) Correspondence Regarding Ontario Regulation 444/98 and Community Hubs

Pages 68-71

b) Correspondence Regarding the Ministry of Education's Funding Allocation Model for Special Education Needs Amount

Page 72

4. **Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

5. **Ontario Public School Boards' Association Report**

D Chase

6. **Future Meetings**

Page 73

The March 2017 calendar is attached.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

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

**February 28, 2017 Board Meeting
Director's Update to Trustees**

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Judy Dunn, Caretaker, Oakridge PS

Judy began her career with the DSBN 17 years ago as a relief caretaker and has been the head caretaker at Oakridge Public School for the past ten years.

She is a dedicated employee and works hard every day to ensure that Oakridge is clean, safe and ready for students to attend. Judy often goes above and beyond the call of duty and is always willing to lend a hand whenever it is needed. All the students know Mrs. Dunn. She takes time to get to know their names and develops relationships with them. This year one student even dressed up as Mrs. Dunn for Halloween! She is a great example of someone who takes into consideration the whole child and their individual needs. Her sense of humour and ability to get both staff and students laughing is remarkable. Judy will often engage students in jobs around the school and everyone wants to volunteer to help her when needed. She also holds children responsible for their actions and motivates them to keep the hallways and classrooms clean.

One student at the school wrote:

'Mrs. Dunn is awesome! A couple of reasons why I admire Mrs. Dunn:

1. She is super positive in every way possible!
2. Every time she looks at me she says, "Here's Johnny!" I don't know what that's a reference to but I really love it and I hope she does it until I leave for high school.
3. Mrs. Dunn is a Leaf's fan. I don't know if she likes Dave Dunn but I hope she does. The Leafs are the best.
4. I hope Mrs. Dunn continues to make me smile for years to come and I hope she makes others smile long after I'm gone to high school. Thank you Mrs. Dunn!'

This year, Oakridge has been undergoing an addition and renovations. Judy spent her whole summer at the school, supporting and encouraging the construction staff. Her flexibility in this situation was commendable. When Judy retires at the end of this year, Oakridge won't be the same without her. Congratulations Judy, you are most deserving of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions!

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Lynda Frazer, Volunteer, River View PS

Lynda Frazer, also known as Baba Lynda, has been a volunteer at River View PS for seven years, where both of her grandsons, Niko and Lucas, attend.

When it comes to "What has Lynda done for River View's school community?", the question should really be "What has Lynda NOT done for the students of River View?"

Here is just a short list of what Lynda has done for the students: made playdough, read with them, donated toys and all kinds of craft supplies, made scarves for Christmas for every child in the class, taught little ones how to use a computer to print a picture from the internet, painted every student in the class their very own picture on canvas that was an expression of them and their individual interests (she is very artistically talented!), led craft activities for classes, and the list goes on.

The thing that stands out the most about Lynda is her compassion for kids. When she sees students learning she is so happy, and when she sees them struggling she cries and wants to be at the school more often so she can sit and help in whatever capacity she can. She is always determined to help children be successful. If it was time for the students to leave, she would say "We WILL finish tomorrow!" and she would be back that very next day to continue her work. Lynda always knows when students can do more, and she pushes them to reach for higher goals. She just NEVER gives up! She told the grade three teacher this year that "there is no place she would rather be."

The staff and students of River View agree that they could not imagine that there's anyone more deserving of The Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions Award than Lynda! She LOVES the students and they feel so lucky to have her. Thank you for all that you do Lynda, and congratulations!

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Spencer MacKenzie, Student, Ridgeway-Crystal Beach HS

Spencer MacKenzie is a Grade 11 honour student at Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School (RCBHS), and attended elementary school at Ridgeway and Bertie Public Schools. One of Spencer's main passions is music, and in particular the Blues. This past January, he won New Artist/Group of the Year at the 20th Annual Maple Blues Awards in Toronto. Prior to that, in 2013, Spencer received the Rising Star Award at the Niagara Music Awards, and in 2016 won the Toronto Blues Society Talent Search.

Spencer has performed in various venues such as the Kitchener Blues Festival, West Coast Blues Festival, and Canal Bank Shuffle. He has graciously shared his talents at local events such as the Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce Black Cat Gala, where proceeds went toward the Town's new centre for the arts fundraising efforts, along with funds going toward student bursaries. In addition, at RCBHS' recent Christmas assembly, Spencer wowed his peers, parents, teachers, and support staff with his belting out of the Blues.

Spencer has been an inspiration for his peers and those within his home town. He approaches each day with a quiet confidence, and always takes time to acknowledge and thank those that appreciate his talents. We look forward to, and wish Spencer all the success that he so rightfully deserves. Congratulations Spencer, you are most deserving of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions!

Local

Westlane's DECA Team Dominates

Perseverance, hard work, teamwork, communication, dedication and a desire to be the best have paid off for Westlane SS students who competed at the recent Provincial DECA competition and WON!!

7500 students from across Ontario were vying for a chance to represent DECA CANADA at the DECA International Career Development Conference and Competition.

The Westlane team of Azaan Adnan and Matt Rogers, and the team of Jasim Khan, Kunj Patel and Harroop Ahuja finished within the top 6 out of 25 teams each and will be making the trip of a lifetime as they travel to Anaheim California at the end of April for 9 days. Over 19000 students will be competing from around the world.

These events provide great opportunities for our students to further their leadership skills and gain valuable experiences in the area of Business by responding to authentic business cases and market demands.

Congratulations and best of luck!

EQAO Recognizes Nelles Public School

EQAO has recently drawn attention to eight Ontario elementary schools that have effectively used multiple sources of data, including EQAO data, to design math programs that have helped more students meet the provincial standard. Nelles Public School is one of them!

Each year, EQAO identifies and celebrates schools that have been using data to improve student achievement. Congratulations to Nelles Public School staff for this well-deserved recognition and for implementing school improvement initiatives that have helped students achieve in Math.

DSBN Special Education Semi-Formal

More than 200 special education students from across the DSBN, dressed in formal attire and gathered inside the gym of Thorold Secondary School recently, to take part in a semi-formal dance.

Besides meeting new friends and getting dressed up, one student said the best thing about the daytime dance is 'the partying!'

Thank you to educational assistant Lindsay Dezeeuw, along with Lorraine Schoonings, coordinator of Thorold Secondary School's special education program, for spearheading this event in an effort to give the students this high school experience. It was a memorable day!

DSBN Lego Robotics Challenge

The DSBN 19th Annual Technology Skills Challenges kicked off last week as nearly 400 DSBN elementary students from across the District competed in the DSBN Lego Robotics Challenge - hosted at Brock University!

Schools were represented from both the junior and intermediate divisions with many schools holding pre-event tryouts to determine who would attend the one-day challenge. Points were awarded for each challenge to determine the overall winner for each division.

The event was attended by over 500 people including elementary administrators, teachers, students and parents. SHSM students from Westlane SS and Sir Winston Churchill SS were also in attendance to act as scoring judges.

The passion and creativity of our young Makers was infectious and resulted in a great day of imagination and problem solving.

Sisters in Spirit

Sisters in Spirit is an original production, created by the drama students of Welland Centennial Secondary School. Once again, I am amazed by the talent of our students and staff, as well as their hard work and determination in delivering such an important, relevant and emotionally charged production.

Students have spent the better part of their school year learning about Indigenous culture and many of the historical injustices that have been placed upon that community. Over the course of writing and rehearsal the students undertook special research with the help of the DSBN's Indigenous Education Team.

This outstanding play aids in building awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) by sharing their stories and struggles. It also highlights Indigenous traditions and teachings.

Many of our students and teachers attended the performances which made for a powerful experience, rich in teachable moments. Teachers received a pre-show study guide developed by the DSBN's Indigenous Education Team and were also provided with post-show activities to help them facilitate discussions once back in their classroom.

Sisters in Spirit has been entered into the Niagara District Sears Drama Festival, and although the entry is more about awareness than winning, students are hoping to win so they can share this production with a wider audience.

Congratulations to the Welland Centennial SS drama students and director/drama teacher Max Ingrao for a job well done!



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

Background and Rationale:

The Summary of Accounts is regularly presented to the Trustees in order to disclose the Board expenditures paid during the previous month. The Summary highlights the costs associated with employee benefits, transportation, utilities, and the total of all other non-salary expenditures.

Summary of Accounts:

A summary of accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1859 to 1869, for the month of January 2017, is as follows.

Employee Benefits	\$ 7,355,318.24
Transportation	1,755,944.13
Utilities	844,993.43
Other	<u>4,943,599.03</u>
Total	<u>\$ 14,899,854.83</u>

Recommended Motion:

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1859 to 1869, for the month of January 2017, totaling \$14,899,854.83 be received.”

Supporting Data:

A computer listing of all cheques and electronic fund transfers, issued by the Board for the month of January 2017, will be in the Director’s office during the Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Veld
Superintendent of Business Services

Board Meeting of February 28, 2017

For further information, please contact Stacy Veld or the Director of Education.



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

191 CARLTON ST. • ST. CATHARINES, ON • L2R 7P4 • 905-641-1550 • DSBN.ORG

December 6, 2016

Kathleen Wynne, Premier
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne:

With the release of the Province's one-year progress update on Community Hubs in Ontario, *Enabling & Celebrating Community Hubs*, it was made clear that the Province is making significant changes to encourage the development of community hubs. The recognition by the Province that more consideration should be given to community needs when determining whether to sell, lease, buy, build or renovate properties is a noteworthy step towards encouraging enhanced local planning towards hub development. The District School Board of Niagara has engaged in such planning discussions with a local not-for-profit community partner, the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre. The Native Friendship Centre has expressed interest in purchasing a closed District School Board of Niagara facility, Fort Erie Elementary School, with the goal of developing it into a community hub, from which they would deliver culturally appropriate programs for Indigenous community members.

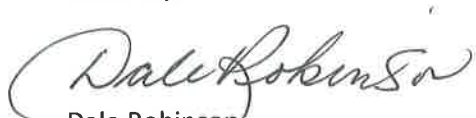
While we applaud the addition of Indigenous organizations to the list of preferred entities outlined in Ontario Regulation 444/98 – Disposition of Surplus Real Property, we recognize that the Native Friendship Centre's position on the prioritized list may impact their ability to be considered as a purchaser of our facility and ultimately may hamper their ability to establish a community hub in a key location. Specifically, in regard to disposition of our Fort Erie Elementary School facility, the District School Board of Niagara respectfully requests permission to prioritize interest expressed by the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre, a member of the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres, and to be allowed to consider their expression of interest in purchasing the facility immediately following any interest that may be expressed by our coterminous school boards. Our impetus for this request is driven by our recognition that the programs being planned by the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre are very cohesive with the concept of a community hub and have the potential to have significant, positive, social impact in the Fort Erie Community. After ongoing discussions with our community partner, it has become clear that securing a strategically located, permanent location from which to operate the community hub is a critical step in advanced planning and securing funding for hub programs and services.

Although there is not yet a formal mechanism in place to measure social return on investment, we were excited to learn that the Province is in the process of developing evaluation tools to measure evidence-based outcomes and methods to assess the collective impact of community hubs. While the important work is being done to put those tools and strategies in place, we hope that this unique situation will be permitted.

Your permission to allow us to prioritize any expressions of interest to purchase our facility submitted by the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre, immediately after consideration to our coterminous school boards, would demonstrate the meaningful action necessary to support our ability to augment a strong relationship with a local not-for-profit community partner, while providing a direct solution to the local challenge of repurposing a closed school facility into a community hub.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to review and consider our request. We look forward to receiving your decision.

Sincerely,



Dale Robinson
Chair of the Board



Kevin Maves
Chair, Properties Disposal Committee

cc: Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education
Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education
Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure
Karen Pitre, Special Advisor to the Premier on Community Hubs

Ministry of Education

Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



Ontario

February 7, 2017

Mr. Dale Robinson, Chair of the Board
Mr. Kevin Maves, Chair, Properties Disposal Committee
District School Board of Niagara
191 Carlton Street
St. Catharines ON L2R 7P4

Dear Mr. Robinson and Mr. Maves:

Thank you for your letter, forwarded to me by Premier Kathleen Wynne, regarding Ontario Regulation 444/98 and community hubs. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Our government understands that it has a role to play in supporting strong community partnerships, making it easier for local communities to offer services that best serve and respond to local needs.

Since the release of Community Hubs in Ontario: A Strategic Framework and Action Plan, the Ministry of Education has been working with stakeholders and ministries across government to deliver on the province's commitment to implement the recommendations in the action plan.

I appreciate the board's advocacy on behalf of its Indigenous community stakeholders; however, our government does not have the authority to allow individual exceptions to the prioritization of public entities set out in O. Reg. 444/98.

However, we are committed to continuing to engage collectively with our partners to support community hub development. I understand that you have been in touch with Karen Pitre and our government's Community Hubs Advisory Group and Secretariat. This group is intended to be a resource, helping to support integrated and long-term local planning.

I would encourage you to continue your discussions with the Community Hubs Secretariat, and to continue involving Indigenous partners in planning discussions around a hub for the Fort Erie community. It is encouraging and laudable to see stakeholders working together to make positive social impacts in their communities.

.../2

By way of background, Ontario Regulation 444/98, *Disposition of Surplus Real Property*, governs the disposition of a surplus property. In May 2016, the Ministry of Education announced regulatory amendments to O. Reg. 444/98 which took effect on September 1, 2016. These changes are intended to keep surplus properties within the public sphere where there is a need and a financially viable proposal. We have improved opportunities for public organizations to purchase or lease surplus school facilities, including by adding new public entities – such as Indigenous organizations – to the circulation list.

I appreciate your efforts to engage with your community and would like to thank you again for taking the time to write. I trust that this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MH', written in a cursive style.

Mitzie Hunter, MBA
Minister

c: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier



Bluewater District School Board

351 1st Avenue North – PO Box 190
Chesley ON N0G 1L0
Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909
www.bwdsb.on.ca

January 23, 2017

Karen McGregor
Special Education Advisory Committee Chair
Limestone District School Board
220 Portsmouth Ave.,
Kingston, ON K7M 0G2

Dear Karen McGregor:

Bluewater District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) would like to acknowledge and support Limestone District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee's (SEAC) letter of concern to the Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education, regarding the reduction in the special education funding under the new funding allocation model for the Special Education Needs Amount (formerly High Needs Amount). Under the new funding model, Bluewater District School Board is also experiencing a decline in funding for each of the four years of the transition period.

Bluewater District School Board is also committed to finding innovative ways of meeting the needs of all our students, and working with the Ministry of Education in a collaborative manner to address these complex funding issues. We recognize that not all boards are experiencing cuts as part of the transition to the new model. We, however, concur with your belief that the Ministry of Education must provide adequate funds to support the needs of all exceptional learners. Smaller, rural boards have challenges in equitably providing special education services across large geographic areas, and need time to adjust to changes in funding models. For those boards experiencing reductions in funding, we support your recommendation to the Minister of Education that no additional special education funding reductions be implemented, including further reductions planned under the new funding allocation model.

Sincerely,

Jane Thomson
Trustee and Special Education Advisory Committee Chair

cc: Ontario School Board Chairs
Ontario Special Education Advisory Committee Chairs

March 2017

Trustee Calendar

Feb 2017							Apr 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	4						1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28					23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
		6:15 PM Board Meeting - Closed Session 7:00 PM Board Meeting - Public Session				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		6:00 PM Program and Planning	1:00 PM SAL	6:00 PM SEAC		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 AM March Break	12:00 AM March Break	12:00 AM March Break	12:00 AM March Break	12:00 AM March Break	12:00 AM March Break	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		5:30 PM Policy Committee				
26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
		6:15 PM Board Meeting - Closed Session 7:00 PM Board Meeting - Public Session				