

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 6:27 p.m. | Public Session: 7:00 p.m. – 7:46 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD

Kate Baggott (remote), Alex Bradnam (Vice Chair), Sue Barnett (Chair), Nancy Beamer, Lora Campbell Jonathan Fast, Elizabeth Klassen, Shannon Mitchell, Doug Newton, Dave Schaubel

STUDENT TRUSTEES

Tiya Patel, Julianna Marcel, Kya Steinbach-Parker

OFFICIALS

Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, Simon Hancox, Ann Gilmore, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, Leanne Smith, Michael St. John, Darren VanHooydonk, Stacy Veld, Jennifer Feren, Maryam Safdar Ali, Kim Sweeney, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Morgan

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jennifer McGugan

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Nate Burns, Wendy Coit and Eleanor Novak

REGRETS

Trustee Kevin Maves

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Barnett opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT

Chair Barnett called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m. and noted that Trustee Kevin Maves was absent.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Doug Newton

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole.”

CARRIED

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the Board return to Open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:27 p.m.

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’

The Board stood as ‘*O Canada*’ was performed by Stevensville Public School students, via video.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Vice Chair Alex Bradnam shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 27, 2022, 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 Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“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) Director’s Report

Director Hoshizaki provided recent highlights from across the system which included information about:

- Celebrating A Return to Grade 9 Registration Events
- Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)
- ROUTES
- Cottage Country at Diamond Trail
- DSBN Strategic Plan 2023-2028

Director Hoshizaki shared that “Ignite”, the plan for stakeholder input into DSBN’s new Strategic Plan was launched on September 14 and will continue through to September 28, 2022. To maximize participation in the process, each school administrator received a toolkit to promote participation with staff, parents, school councils, community partners and students in

grades 4 to 12. The survey information has been shared with other local agencies in Niagara and Board Committees. The process includes two stakeholder meetings. The first meeting was very successful with over 150 representatives from elementary and secondary students, staff, union groups, parents and community partners that came together to share insights and thoughts about the future of DSBN. All data and input collected will be reviewed, analyzed, and synthesized into a meaningful strategic plan, to be launched early in 2023, that will guide the DSBN's decision-making for the next five years.

- **Walker Living Campus Paving**

Director Hoshizaki reported that the DSBN has entered a partnership with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) to pave the driveway leading into the Walker Living Campus. This will allow student to access the facility all year more easily. NPCA has begun the engineering process, with a plan for completion next summer.

2. Educational Showcases

There were no educational showcases.

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. Report of the Parent Involvement Committee

Moved by Nancy Beamer

Seconded by Doug Newton

"That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated September 7, 2022, be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Newton provided a summary of the meeting that began with the acclamation of the new Chair,

Amber Hughes. Superintendent VanHooydonk joined the meeting to explain the process that is underway to create the DSBN's new Strategic Plan. Superintendent Hancox shared the excitement felt in schools as students and staff returned to normal school routines with renewed energy. Initial plans were also discussed for the upcoming PIC Fall Events which include the School Council Chair Virtual Session on November 2nd, and a presentation on November 17th by Ann Douglas focus on her positive approach for Happy Parents and Happy Kids to kick off the Speaker Series for 2022-23.

2. Report of the Audit Committee

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Kate Baggot

"That the report of the Audit Committee dated September 12, 2022, be received."

"That the Regional Internal Audit Status Report be received."

CARRIED

Superintendent Veld provided highlights from the meeting, which included the election of the 2022-23 Chair Yusuf Essop, a request for the completion of the committee member Declaration of Conflict of Interest and an annual self-assessment supported by Ontario Regulation 361/10, as well as a presentation from the Regional Internal Audit Team.

3. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated September 15, 2022, be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell provided a summary of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, where Linda Morrice and Stephanie Sendzik were acclaimed into the SEAC Chair and Vice Chair positions again for the upcoming year. The committee received a review on the process for developing the District School Board of Niagara's (DSBN) new Strategic Plan, 2023-2028, an orientation presentation on the Special Education Advisory Committee, and an update on the Special Education Plan for 2022-23. Some other meeting updates included information on the support of students with complex needs through the Intensive Support Training Teams, the upcoming professional development available for staff, and a summary of the inclusive Summer Learning program. The committee received a video presentation highlighting the We Play program, which was one of the many summer learning offerings this summer.

4. Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Moved by Julianna Marcel

Seconded by Tiya Patel and Kya Steinbach Parker

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated September 20, 2022, be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustee Patel shared that students are enjoying the return of clubs, sports, and activities, and that the student trustees are looking forward to working together this year. Student Trustee Marcel shared that at the first meeting the Senate received an overview of the role of the Student Trustees, their involvement in OSTA-AECO (Ontario Student Trustee Association-l'Association des Élèves Conseillers et Conseillères de l'Ontario), as well as the structure and purpose of the Student Trustee Senate. Senators were asked to share their thoughts on their application process, as well as some of their goals and visions for the Senate this year. Student Trustee Steinbach-Parker shared that a new Student Trustee Senate Application process was developed with input from the DSBN equity team.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Re-Schedule October Board Meeting

Moved by Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Jonathan Fast

Recommended Motion:

“That the October 25, 2022, board meeting be re-scheduled to November 8, 2022.”

CARRIED

Chair Barnett noted that the motion to re-schedule the October meeting is due to the timelines of developing and finalizing the Board's new strategic plan for 2023-2028, the final plan will not be ready by October 25, 2022. Re-scheduling the meeting to November 8 will allow for the efficiency of dealing with the general business of the board as well as the strategic plan in one meeting.

In response to a question, Jennifer Feren, stated that under the *Education Act* the current Trustees have legal authority through until the new Board is appointed on November 15, 2022.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. STAFF REPORTS

- a) DSBN Staffing 2022-2023 Report

Moved by Jonathon Fast

Seconded by Doug Newton

Recommended Motion:

“That the DSBN Staffing 2022-2023 report dated September 27, 2022, be received.”

CARRIED

Superintendent Lora Courtois reviewed the report and highlighted that the DSBN did not declare any redundancy or layoffs across any employee groups for this school year. A significant number of new employees were hired due to retirements, enrolment increases, and government funding opportunities.

In response to a question, Director Hoshizaki noted that the learning renewal work being done by Teachers and Social Workers is based on student needs.

2. TRUSTEE INFORMATION SESSION

There was no trustee information session.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

There was no correspondence received.

4. TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

Chair Barnett attended the Mayor’s Gala, the Eastdale Secondary School 60th reunion, as well as the Eastdale Secondary School Alumni murder mystery fundraising dinner.

Trustee Mitchell attended a Niagara College event that hosted the Founder of the Orange Shirt Day movement. She shared that this upcoming Saturday the eighth annual traditional powwow is happening in St. Catharines.

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

Trustee Baggott noted that there is an OPSBA meeting this weekend and she will share a report at the November Board meeting.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS - CONTINUED

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of October 2022 meetings was provided.

The October Days of Significance calendar was provided.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on September 27, 2022, be now ratified by the Board."

"That the Chair and proper officials of the District School Board of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the business as decided by the Board of Trustees this day."

CARRIED

O. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Kate Baggott

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

SUE BARNETT

Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI

Director of Education and Secretary