

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 25, 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'

A.K. Wigg Public School choir will perform 'O Canada' via video

D. REFLECTIVE READING

By Trustee Dave Schaubel

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Pages 6-22

Recommended Motion:

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated March 28, 2017 be confirmed as submitted.”

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Correspondence from the Town of Pelham

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 23-32

Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective

- a) Director’s Recognition – Tessa Piccolo, Student, E.L. Crossley S.S.
- b) Director’s Recognition – Dave Collie, Teacher, Beamsville District S.S.
- c) Director’s Recognition – Sam Berg, Volunteer, Twenty Valley P.S.
- d) Director’s Update to Trustees

2. Educational Showcases

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

H. DELEGATIONS

I. BOARD RECESS (Optional)

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCOUNTS

S Veld
Page 33

Recommended Motion:

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1885 to 1907, for the month of March 2017 totalling \$19,895,171.87 be received.”

2. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

D Schaubel
Pages 34-37

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated April 4, 2017 be received; and

That South Lincoln High School be renovated to accommodate an elementary school and that, upon completion of construction, the students of College Street Public School transition to this location.”

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 April 5, 2017 be received.”

4. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

L Campbell
Pages 40-44

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated April 13, 2017 be received.”

5. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

D Robinson / J Ajandi
Pages 45-54

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated April 13, 2017 be received.”

6. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

S Alazzam / K Luciani
Pages 55-59

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated April 18, 2017 be received.”

7. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

K Maves
Pages 60-77

Recommended Motiond:

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated April 19, 2017 be received; and

“That the low bid received from Bromac Construction, in the amount of \$1,662,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for HVAC upgrades at Welland Centennial Secondary School”; and

“That the Interim Financial Report for the period ending February 28, 2017, be received”; and

“That Administrative Procedure 5-23: *Trustee Travel and Business Expenses* be approved as amended and adopted.”

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 from Waterloo District School Board | Page 78 |
| b) Correspondence from Waterloo District School Board | Page 79 |
| c) Correspondence from C. Stirtzinger | Pages 80-85 |

4. **Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

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

6. **Future Meetings** Page 86

The May 2017 calendar is attached.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

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

**April 25, 2017 Board Meeting
Director's Update to Trustees**

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Tessa Piccolo, Student, E.L. Crossley SS

Tessa is a 'far from typical' grade 10 student. She is a socially-minded and quietly determined student who leads by example and whose selfless attitude to help others is limitless. An active member of her school and community, Tessa never steps back from an opportunity to extend herself. Her community citizenship is reflected in her participation with the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, the Pelham Seniors Advisory Council, the Pelham Cares Food Drive and the Library Teen Advisory Council through which she founded the Pelham Library's Teen Book Club.

Last year, Tessa attended the Forum for Young Canadians in Ottawa and represented Canadian teens at the 2016 WE Day press conference in Toronto. With an academic standing of 96%, Tessa also participates in numerous clubs and activities at school including Student Council, Student Trustee Senate, the Concert Band and Marching Band, the Eco Club and the Nutrition Club, which brings us to the reason Tessa is being recognized. At the end of her grade 9 year, while most students were beginning their summer holidays, Tessa emailed her principal citing her concern for the need of a formal nutrition program at E.L. Crossley. Encouraged by her principal's response, Tessa contacted Niagara Nutrition Partners to explore the possibility of launching this new club at her school the following September. Impressed with Tessa's drive and initiative, Niagara Nutrition Partners immediately supported her request and after a few preliminary meetings last Fall, E.L. Crossley's Nutrition Club was launched in November. The need for this program, as well as its success and growth, are reflected by the number of daily visitors which has increased from 159 visitors in November to 792 visitors in the past couple of months. A most deserving candidate for this award, it is important to know that Tessa didn't just initiate the Nutrition Club at E.L. Crossley, but she did all of the research into the importance of healthy eating and its impact on educational readiness, recruited the staff advisors, co-created the menu items and promoted the program within the school. She also volunteers in the Nutrition Club from 7:45 to 8:10 each morning.

Tessa displays a level of maturity and an awareness that belies her years, something that is attributed to her core family values and the confidence she has to accomplish great things for others. She is a very caring individual and a positive role model for others with a motivation that is not about the accolades she receives, but instead, about knowing her efforts will be realized by those she is helping to support. Congratulations on receiving the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions Award Tessa!

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Dave Collie, Teacher, Beamsville District SS

Dave Collie began his teaching career at Beamsville District Secondary School (BDSS) in 1987, and in the 30 years since has demonstrated a tireless dedication to student growth, development and excellence through his work both in the classroom, and in athletics at the local, provincial, national and international levels.

Dave's wrestling program is second to none, and his work as a coach, teacher, organizer and leader has had an incredibly positive impact on students.

An internationally experienced wrestler himself, Dave's athletes have had an unprecedented legacy of success over his coaching career at BDSS. Beginning in 1989, with Peter Gray's OFSAA gold medal, Dave has coached 37 different athletes and teams to OFSAA medals, many of them with multiple podium finishes. This total includes 28 OFSAA gold medals won by teams and athletes including Olympic medalist Tonya Verbeek. Dave's success as a coach also extends beyond school athletics, working with athletes who have been highly successful at the club, university, national and international levels.

At the most recent OFSAA wrestling tournament, Dave was presented with the OFSAA Leadership Award for Wrestling which is awarded to a teacher and coach who has made a significant contribution to the educational athletic program. The recipient of the award exemplifies the values of fair play and good sportsmanship, while promoting enjoyment, personal growth, and educational achievement through school sport.

When Dave retires in June, he will expand his current role coaching wrestling at Brock University. His career of excellence in the classroom, and in athletics is truly special, and he has made a difference in the lives of so many young people. This passion and dedication to our students makes him the perfect candidate of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions Award. Congratulations Dave!

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Sam Berg, Volunteer, Twenty Valley PS

Sam Berg is a graduate of Vineland Public School and Beamsville District Secondary School, and currently studies drama at Brock University.

One day in November, Sam went to visit Twenty Valley Public School. He casually mentioned that he might like to volunteer. So when the school needed to hire a tutor to assist with grade three students, Sam jumped at the chance. This past January, Sam began tutoring and has since been bitten by the "teaching bug." He has been inspired to participate in many different aspects of school life with all grades.

Sam volunteers at Twenty Valley all day each week from Monday to Thursday. He provides one to one mentoring and tutoring to 15 students in mathematics and literacy. Among the things that distinguish Sam is his commitment to getting to know his students. He has developed a positive, motivational rapport with each student and they cannot wait to work with him. He has taken the time to learn specific strategies and programs to help students progress and has

created games and materials at home to support student growth. Sam knows each student as an individual. His role has also expanded to helping provide daily literacy support to grade one students. He connects to show each student that they matter, and always looks to the positive in everyone. With this care and respect for all, he then challenges each student to achieve. In every interaction, it is evident that he BELIEVES that all students can improve.

Outside of the classroom, Sam has jumped in to help coach junior basketball and track and field and fills in as a noon hour supervisor if there is a need. As a volunteer, he has the ability to find things that need to be done and sets out to do them, with energy and style.

While the tutor position is a paid one, Sam currently only claims six hours of the 24 that he spends at the school each week.

Sam Berg is a shining example to our students. He helps them each day to overcome obstacles, shows them that they matter and touches their lives in a very positive way.

Congratulations Sam for receiving the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions Award.

Local

EQAO Celebrates Governor Simcoe SS and Nelles PS

Earlier this month, EQAO recognized seven Ontario secondary schools that have effectively used multiple sources of data, including EQAO data, to design math programs that helped more grade nine students meet the provincial standard in applied mathematics. Congratulations to Governor Simcoe Secondary School for being one of them!

The school was featured on EQAO's website and social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn).

I am also very pleased to advise that both Nelles Public School and Governor Simcoe Secondary School have been honoured as recipients of the Dr. Bette M. Stephenson Recognition of Achievement. This recognition program was established by the EQAO Board of Directors in 2009 as a tribute to Dr. Stephenson's lifelong commitment and contribution to education and public service.

Governor Simcoe SS and Nelles PS have been chosen for effectively using EQAO data to foster success for students. Congratulations to school staff for this outstanding achievement!

Coding

The grade one class at Woodland PS worked with the our IT for Learning team to learn the basics of coding. No computer needed!

As you can see in the photo, the students used directional arrows to get the bunny to the eggs. The other animals (as chosen by the students) are threats to the bunny and therefore, obstacles in the game. Learning and fun was had by all!



The Wizard of Oz

Central French Immersion Public School presented “The Wizard of Oz” this month which was a huge success.

Congratulations to the **120** students involved and the collaborative effort of 20 staff members to bring it all together. What an outstanding production!



James Morden PS and Canada’s 150th Birthday

Mr. Smith's grade 7/8 class at James Morden PS has partnered with the Niagara Falls History Museum to help celebrate Canada's 150th birthday. Students selected a meaningful artifact and wrote about how it represents what Canada means to them. Students are excited to have their work be part of an upcoming exhibit at the museum.



Robotics Championships

Six grade 10 students from Governor Simcoe Secondary School and three teams of grade 10 to 12 students at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School went to Louisville, Kentucky last week to compete at the VEX Robotics World Championship. Teams competed against 563 other high school teams from around the world. The Governor Simcoe team who won the Ontario Provincial Championship for the third year in a row to qualify for Worlds is pictured below.



The Governor Simcoe FIRST Robotics Team, 1114 Simbotics, is heading to St Louis this week for the Championship Event. Simbotics won two district events on their way to qualifying for the Championship and will be competing against 400 other teams from around the world. This marks the 15th straight year that Simbotics has competed at the World Championship.



Students Rock

On April 18th James White, a student at Beamsville District Secondary School competed in and won the fourth annual "Students Rock" competition held at the Scotia Bank Centre in Niagara Falls.

"Students Rock" is a Niagara Regional Police run guitar competition that pairs one student from each high school in Niagara with a police officer mentor who acts as a life coach. Each student then selects a classic rock song to perform at the event and practices for approximately three months. The purpose of this program is to allow police officers to engage and mentor local youth while sharing a passion for music.

James was paired with a Grimsby patrol officer and selected the song “Texas Flood” by Stevie Ray Vaughan. Although randomly selected to perform last, James stole the show with his skill and stage presence. For winning, James received a guitar donated by Long and McQuade and the opportunity to perform at numerous events throughout the summer.

OFSAA Para Swimming

Students at Beamsville District Secondary School (BDSS) achieved unbelievably high levels in Windsor at this year’s OFSAA swim meet. The results not only showed the dedication of BDSS athletes, but also of their coach, Kathaleen McNeil, and of their families who worked so hard to support them, transport them and encourage them at this exciting event. Congratulations to the para division team, who won the overall championship in their division – making them the top para swimmers in Ontario!

Ryan Kulikowski - 1st place gold para 50 back, 3rd place bronze para 50 free

Brian Knechtel - 7th place ribbon para 100 free, 10th para 50 free

Ben Posavad - 7th place ribbon para 50 back, 19th para 50 free

Josie Guilbeault - 5th place ribbon para 50 back, 11th para 50 free

Connor MacPhee - 12th para 100 free, 17th para 50 free

Caitlin English - 12th para 50 back, 15th para 50 free

Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair

DSBN students once again had an excellent showing at the recent Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair. A list of all the DSBN students who participated in this Fair is attached for your information.

Congratulations to these students on their outstanding accomplishments and we wish them continued success!

Lucas Penny – Grimsby Secondary School

A Novel Isothermal Microfluidic Device to Detect Salivary microRNAs in Breast Cancer

- NRSEF Best in Fair Award
- Intel International Science Fair
- Senior - Gold Medal and Brock Faculty of Mathematics and Science Award
- Hatch Award
- Brock University Chemistry Award

Dheiksha Jayasankar – Power Glen Public School

NanoGrow: Nanoparticles as Plant Growth Enhancer

- Canada Wide Science Fair - Team Niagara 2017
- Junior - Gold Medal and Walker Environmental Group Trophy
- Niagara Peninsula Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association
- Vineland Research and Innovation Centre
- Brock University Biology Award

Bob Wei – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Solitary Wave Propagation in a Novel Granular Chain Setup

- Canada Wide Science Fair - Team Niagara 2017
- Senior - Silver Medal
- Brock University Entrance Scholarships
- CEO Niagara Chapter: Consulting Engineers of Ontario Award
- Brock University Physics Award

Ajay Patel – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Development of an Efficient Method to Detect the Authenticity of Olive Oil

- Canada Wide Science Fair - Team Niagara 2017
- Senior - Bronze Medal
- University of Guelph Plant Science Award
- Ontario Horticulture Association - District 9

Akshay Patel – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

The Role of Proctolin in Turning Behaviour of Drosophila Melanogaster Larvae

- Canada Wide Science Fair - Team Niagara 2017
- Senior - Bronze Medal
- Brock University Entrance Scholarships

OTHER

Rikki DaCosta – Power Glen Public School

- NRSEF Plaque for Outstanding Science Fair Teacher

Power Glen Public School

- Juvenile School Award - Studio T3 Engineering PLLC Award

Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

- Secondary School Award – Vale Award

SENIOR – GRADES 11 AND 12

Suehyun Cho – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Conformations of Antibody SPE7 Generated by Molecular Dynamics Simulations

- Brock University Entrance Scholarships
- Statistical Science Award
- Mancuso Chemical Award
- Canadian Forces Reserves – The Lincoln and Welland Regiment Award

Nicole Dewey – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Development of colorimetric polymerase chain reaction for rapid diagnosis of infectious diseases

- Marijane Doyle Award
- Brock University Chemistry Award
- Brock University Biology Award

Daniel Mateus – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Study of Sedimentary Rock Layers in Valles Marineris Canyon System, Mars

- Brock University Earth Science Award
- Royal College of Astronomy Niagara Award

Madison Greenough – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Transitioning from Grade 12 Mathematics to University Calculus: How are we doing?

- Brock University Mathematics Award

Sama Nanayakkara – Governor Simcoe Secondary School

The Effects of Drought on Bee Abundance in Niagara

- Niagara Peninsula Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association
- Vineland Research and Innovation Centre

Gary Feng – A.N. Myer Secondary School

Sound of Data

- Brock University Niagara College Photonics Award

Kayla Lyndon – DSBN Academy

The Effects of a 12-Week Exercise Program on Body Image and Physical Fitness in Older Adults

- Brock University Entrance Scholarships

INTERMEDIATE – GRADES 9 AND 10

Daniel Genkin – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

An Innovative Way To Control Your Computer

- Intermediate - Bronze Medal

Athena Liu & Cynthia Wan – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Testing Expired Drug Potency

- LifeLabs Award

JUNIOR – GRADES 7 AND 8

Hannah Wayland – Power Glen Public School

The Effect of Artificial and Alternative Sweeteners on Fermentation in Yeast

- Junior - Bronze Medal

Richard Schaefer – Diamond Trail Public School

LED's On Overdrive

- Junior - Honourable Mention
- IEEE Prize for Basic Electricity and Magnetism
- Brock University Niagara College Photonics Award

Tyler Woodland – Lakeview Public School

Living Batteries

- Junior - Honourable Mention
- Niagara Electrical Association Award
- Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario (ETFO)

Devon Causley & Rhys Richards – Lakeview Public School

How does pH affect the development of pre grown ivy and the germination time of radish seeds

- Junior - Honourable Mention

Rachel Martin – Lakeview Public School

Stress on Body Temperature

- Junior - Honourable Mention

Tessa Jeffery & Christine Kim – Glynn A. Green Public School

A Sticky Situation

- Innovation Science Award
- Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario (ETFO)

Ian Safranyos – Glynn A. Green Public School

Making A Battery Using Items Found Around The House

- CEO Niagara Chapter: Consulting Engineers of Ontario Award

Jessica Cullen & Lauren DiPietro – Grand Avenue Public School

Reducing Sound for Sensory

- Brock University Social Sciences Award

Katey Crawford – Power Glen Public School

Let It Grow

- Ontario Tender Fruit Marketing Board
- Vineland Research and Innovation Centre
- Ontario Horticulture Association - District 9

Sara Butler – Power Glen Public School

Does colour affect plant growth

- Ontario Institute of Agrology, Niagara Branch

Mackenzie Tomins – Power Glen Public School

Electrolyte Faceoff

- Ontario Power Generation Award

Madeline Lee – Power Glen Public School

Water Filtration

- Sikamani Memorial Award

Devyn Boutin – Power Glen Public School

Drawn To Learning Sketchnotes vs Written Notes

- Brock University Psychology Award

Tommy Friesen & Andrew DePetrìs – Power Glen Public School

A Slippery Situation: Environmentally Friendly Ways to Melt Ice

- Ontario Horticulture Association - District 9

JUVENILE – GRADES 5 AND 6

Caileigh Hanna – Power Glen Public School

Is It Time To Re-Tire?

- Juvenile - Silver Medal
- Brock University Physics Award
- Ridley College Engineering Award

Aaliyah Alfieri – Power Glen Public School

Spherification

- Juvenile - Silver Medal

Madison Palabay – Power Glen Public School

Can Water Float On Water?

- Juvenile - Bronze Medal

Kate Stuchberry – Power Glen Public School

What Enzymes will work best Natural or Manmade

- Juvenile - Honourable Mention

Johnny Kamendy – Power Glen Public School

Do Pesticides Affect The Regrowth Of Potatoes?

- Brock University Biology Award

Skye Newman – Glynn A. Green Public School

Can You Scream In Space

- Juvenile - Honourable Mention

Layla Allen – Glynn A. Green Public School

Germ, Germs everywhere Germs

- Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario (ETFO)

Robbie Law – Glynn A. Green Public School

Energy Consumption of Appliances

- IEEE Prize for Basic Electricity and Magnetism

Jinja Shepherd – Glynn A. Green Public School

How Well Do Different Materials Create Static Electricity?

- Canadian Forces Reserves – The Lincoln and Welland Regiment Award

Juliette Freure & Liam Shapland – Glynn A. Green Public School

What Materials Block A Wifi Signal?

Elementary Teacher's Federation

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 1885 to 1907, for the month of March 2017, is as follows.

Employee Benefits	\$ 10,194,569.88
Transportation	1,861,328.58
Utilities	899,010.13
Other	<u>6,940,263.28</u>
Total	<u>\$ 19,895,171.87</u>

Recommended Motion:

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1885 to 1907, for the month of March, 2017, totaling \$19,895,171.87 be received.”

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Veld
Superintendent of Business Services

Board Meeting of April 25, 2017

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



**Waterloo Region
District School Board**

Education Centre

51 Ardelt Avenue, Kitchener ON N2C 2R5
Phone: 519 570 0003 Ext. 4111 fax: 519 570 1618
www.wrdsb.ca

February 10, 2017

Honourable Mitzie Hunter
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Hunter:

At the January 23, 2017, Committee of the Whole meeting of the Waterloo Region District School Board, Trustees requested we write to you to express our concern at the lack of qualified, fluent French teachers in the province of Ontario.

While our board currently has enough French teachers to meet our classroom demands, it is difficult for us to find suitably qualified French-speaking teachers for our occasional teacher roster and long-term occasional list. As a result, we periodically face challenges providing consistent programming for our students when French classroom teachers are away.

To address the lack of qualified French teachers available to our system, our Human Resources department is proactively working with universities and colleges across Ontario to secure teachers before they graduate. However, we are concerned about the long-term sustainability of this approach as all school boards compete for the same limited pool of newly-qualified French teachers.

We ask the Ministry of Education to explore ways it can encourage post-secondary institutions to expand French programs to grow the number of qualified French-speaking teachers in Ontario and improve the quality of French-fluent teachers available.

Demand for French Immersion programs in Waterloo region has increased by more than 11 per cent in five years, and we believe measures are needed immediately to ensure we can continue to meet the demands of our community while continuing to ensure that students achieve their potential and we protect the well-being of our system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Scott McMillan', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Scott McMillan
Chairperson of the Board

Cc: OPSBA
Ontario School Board Chairs



**Waterloo Region
District School Board**

Education Centre

51 Ardelt Avenue, Kitchener ON N2C 2R5
Phone: 519 570 0003 Ext. 4111 fax: 519 570 1618
www.wrdsb.ca

February 27, 2017

Dave Wallace, Executive Director
Ontario Universities Application Centre (OUAC)
170 Research Lane
Guelph, Ontario N1G 5E2

Dear Mr. Wallace:

I am writing on behalf of the trustees of the Waterloo Region District School Board to express our concern with the implementation of an additional \$50.00 fee to students who wish to make changes to their OUAC applications beginning with this year's cohort of applications.

At a recent Board Meeting trustees approved the following motion:

That the Board of Trustees direct the Chairperson to draft a letter expressing concern in regard to the additional OUAC fee.

At the Waterloo Region District School Board, we support our students in their quest for post-secondary education, but we recognize that for many of our students there is a significant financial commitment required during this process and as such, we cannot support any additional costs.

On behalf of the Waterloo Region District School Board, I would strongly urge OUAC to reconsider the \$50.00 change fee for 2017-2018 applicants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Scott McMillan', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Scott McMillan
Chairperson of the Board

Cc: OPSBA
Ontario School Board Chairs

**To the Trustees of the District School Board of Niagara
For consideration at its Meeting of April 25, 2017
Submitted by Craig Stirtzinger, on behalf of Names Matter**

Thank you for allowing me to provide new and additional information to further support previous submissions and presentations with respect to the communities in opposition to the DSBN's position to "stand" with the decision to rename EW Farr Memorial Public School to Wellington Heights Public School when the school re-opens September 2017.

This information is intended to draw to the Board's attention the wider community position standing united, concerning the offensiveness of the name Wellington Heights in the manner that it has been portrayed and linked by the DSBN to Arthur Wellesley, the First Duke of Wellington.

It needs to be emphasized to the Trustees that this Duke of Wellington was a documented racist campaigning against giving Jewish people full rights of British citizens because by doing so, he argued, would encourage immigration to Britain. "We do not wish Jews to come and settle here!" he declared in the British House of Lords. This Duke of Wellington was also a member of the colonial British Government when the Treaty of Ghent with Indigenous people was reneged; and the Prime Minister of Britain when residential schools were established here.

For ease of the Trustees I have summarized the names and organizations endorsing the attached resolution and open letter to the Minister of Education, the Honourable Mitzie Hunter.

In some cases, additional letters have been provided by the organizations to further support the main documents. It is encouraged that the Trustees carefully and thoughtfully read all the documents to note the organizations and the people they represent, who are offended:

- Jaynane Burning-Fields, Executive Director, Niagara Regional Native Centre on behalf of the NRNC
- The Venerable Val Kerr, Archdeacon for Truth, Reconciliation and Indigenous Ministry for the Anglican Diocese of Niagara
- On behalf of their congregations:
 - The Reverend Alan McLean Fenwick United Church
 - The Reverend Pearl Vasarhelyi First Presbyterian Church North Pelham
- The community for Christ Church Fenwick

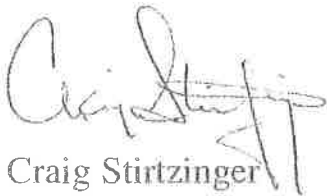
- The Vestry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church Fonthill
- The Corporation of the Town of Pelham
- Ward 1 Town Councilor Marv Junkin (the Ward in the catchment area)
- Niagara Regional Councilor for Pelham, Brian Baty
- Dr Joanna Hope, former Chief of Staff Niagara Health System and local family physician
- Sam Oosterhoff, MPP for the riding of Niagara West-Glanbrook
- 29 other respected and community minded businesses, some of which have served their local community for 100 plus years.

There are more organizations in the wider community that can be approached, and will be if necessary, however we are a community group which strongly and truthfully believe these endorsements should be conclusive enough to entrust the Trustees to make an informed decision to comply with the Minister of Education's directive with respect to "The Journey Together – Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous People".

Recently at a Social Justice event for Indigenous Awareness I attended, a discussion with respect to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action brought out the following comment which I will paraphrase...do not expect government to bring the actions beyond the road...it begins with each of us, individually and collectively, journeying on that road to "act" our small part.

This "small part" really Matters!

Thank you for the opportunity to present,



Craig Stirtzinger

An Open Letter to the Ontario Minister of Education, Mitzie Hunter

A school in our community, E.W. Farr Memorial Public School, has been renamed Wellington Heights Public School, which will commemorate the 1st Duke of Wellington, Arthur Wellesley.

Our community finds the name offensive because Arthur Wellesley, the 1st Duke of Wellington, was a documented racist.

Furthermore, he was an integral part of the colonial British Government that reneged on treaties with Indigenous people in Canada.

Despite whatever efforts Arthur Wellesley, the 1st Duke of Wellington, may have done for other causes, the naming of schools or places today should no longer perpetuate the intolerances of past generations. This is particularly true when existing schools, places and team names are being renamed due to the offensiveness their names bring to races, religions, Indigenous people and others (see Minister of Education Directive dated January 18, 2017).

We, from this community and the greater communities at large find this name to be offensive to the dignity of all people. The District School Board of Niagara's (DSBN) response to this is that "the name inspires students". To demonstrate truth, reconciliation and understanding to all communities, we ask that name Wellington Heights Public School not be used by the DSBN.

Resolution

WHEREAS on May 24, 2016 a school in our community, E.W. Farr Memorial Public School, was renamed Wellington Heights Public School effective May 25, 2016, by the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) to recognize a “proposed” fortress that was suggested to be named after the 1st Duke of Wellington, Arthur Wellesley (Attachment 1 Letter from DSBN Principals dated May 26, 2016. Attachment 2 Brochure submitted to Naming Committee);

AND WHEREAS our community finds the name Wellington Heights offensive because Arthur Wellesley, the 1st Duke of Wellington, was a documented racist who stated on August 1, 1833 in the British House of Lords on the debate on the Jewish Disabilities Bill “we do not wish Jews to come and settle here”, and was an integral part of the colonial British Government that reneged on treaties with Indigenous people in Canada, as well as being the British Prime Minister when Britain established residential schools in Canada;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Education, The Honourable Mitzie Hunter, on January 18, 2017 in her Ministry’s response to the Ontario Government’s 2016 release of “The Journey Together: Ontario’s Commitment to Reconciliation to Indigenous People” outlining Ontario’s response to the “Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action” has urged the Chair of the DSBN to show leadership on this issue to address anything that could be offensive in the jurisdiction of the DSBN (Attachment 3);

AND WHEREAS despite whatever efforts Arthur Wellesley, the 1st Duke of Wellington, may have put forth for other causes, the naming of schools or places today should no longer perpetuate norms of past societies that are viewed as oppressive and offensive today;

AND WHEREAS it is questioned how the DSBN would approve the name Wellington Heights through its Policy A-09 (Attachment 4) in use at the time that does not:

- reflect DSBN vision or core values and community composition;
- recognize a renowned Canadian with significance to the Niagara community;
- honour a Canadian whose contribution to Canadian society or to the world is recognized and valued across Canada;
- depict an event that has shaped life in Niagara;
- recognize a historical name which once applied to the area in which the school is located;
- use the name of street on which the school is located;

AND WHEREAS, the only criteria that the DSBN relied on to justify the name change as per Policy A-09 was that “the name inspired students”;

AND WHEREAS it is further questioned how a name depicting a time in history so disrespectful and offensive to Indigenous people and other races and religions, could be considered inspiring;

AND WHEREAS the name was not adequately researched by the DSBN for historical or geographical accuracy nor societal impacts in 2017;

AND WHEREAS the Pelham community was inspired in the late 1990's when E.L. Crossley Secondary School changed its team name by its own initiative with leadership and guidance from the former Niagara South Board of Education administration based on a community response that the team name was offensive;

AND WHEREAS a DSBN spokesperson was cited in the February 1, 2017 Welland Tribune as saying “the decision has been made and it is time to move forward”;

AND WHEREAS on February 8, 2017 the Pelham and wider community met in a venue with over 200 people in attendance making it very clear, that with all due respect, it will not move backwards;

AND WHEREAS this community wishes to remain leading and proactive, and not reactive, on matters involving truth, understanding and reconciliation;

AND WHEREAS the school will not reopen until September 2017.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Pelham on behalf of its community and the greater communities at large find the name Wellington Heights to be offensive to the dignity of all people;

AND FURTHER THAT in order to demonstrate truth, reconciliation and understanding to all communities, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Pelham urges that the name Wellington Heights not be used.

AND FURTHER THAT the DSBN either select the second choice name or restart the naming process under the DSBN January 26, 2017 A-09 Naming Policy.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be presented to the DSBN Trustees and Director of Education, for consideration at its March meeting and copied to the MPP Sam Oosterhoff, MP Dean Allison, the Minister of Education, The Honourable Mitzie Hunter, and the Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism, The Honourable Michael Coteau for information.

May 2017

Trustee Calendar

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Apr 30	May 1 6:00 PM Dr. Stan Kutcher - Parent & Community Information Session	2 6:00 PM Program and Planning 6:00 PM Dr. Stan Kutcher - Parent & Community Information Session	3 1:00 PM SAL 5:30 PM PIC	4 9:00 AM Concussion Summit	5 12:00 AM Concussion Summit	6 8:00 AM Show Your Colours Event
7	8	9	10	11 6:00 PM SEAC	12	13
14	15	16 6:00 PM Community Partnership & Planning Mtg 6:00 PM Student Trustee Senate	17 6:00 PM Finance	18	19	20
21	22	23 6:15 PM Board Meeting	24 12:00 PM SAL	25	26	27
28	29	30 5:30 PM Excellence in Education	31	Jun 1	2	3