

## ***Regular Board Meeting***

**Tuesday, May 23, 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 choir will perform 'O Canada' via video

### **D. REFLECTIVE READING**

By Student Trustees Samir Alazzam and Karling Luciani

## **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 April 25, 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 23-29

Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective

- a) Director’s Recognition – Neven Basara, Andrew Bonomo, Austin Law, Aidan McAllister and Sarah Ricci, Students, A.N. Myer SS
- b) Director’s Recognition – Michael Fitzgerald, Teacher, Eastdale SS
- c) Director’s Recognition – Andrea Grieve and Lisa Nazar, Administrators, DSBN Academy
- d) Director’s Update to Trustees

### **2. Educational Showcases**

- a) Band of Champions – E.I. McCulley P.S.

M Reimer Friesen

## **G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT**

1. DSBN and Provincial Graduation Rate Report

H McGregor  
Pages 30-31

### **Recommended Motion:**

“That the DSBN and Provincial Graduation Report dated May 23, 2017 be received.”

## **H. DELEGATIONS**

## **I. BOARD RECESS (Optional)**

## **J. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. ACCOUNTS**

S Veld  
Page 32

### **Recommended Motion:**

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1909 to 1923, for the month of April 2017 totalling \$ 19,325,159.46 be received.”

### **2. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

H Campbell / L Campbell  
Pages 33-34

### **Recommended Motion:**

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated May 3, 2017 be received.”

### **3. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE**

L Campbell  
Pages 35-38

### **Recommended Motion:**

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated May 3, 2017 be received.”

**4. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

D Robinson / J Ajandi  
Pages 39-47

**Recommended Motion:**

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated May 11, 2017 be received.”

**5. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

S Alazzam / K Luciani  
Pages 48-51

**Recommended Motion:**

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated May 16, 2017 be received.”

**6. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (handout)**

K Maves

**Recommended Motion:**

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated May 23, 2017 be received.”

**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 Thames Valley DSB            | Pages 52-53 |
| b) Correspondence from Thames Valley DSB            | Pages 54-55 |
| c) Correspondence from The Township of West Lincoln | Pages 56-58 |
| d) Correspondence from The Town of Pelham           | Pages 59-73 |
| e) Correspondence from the City of Port Colborne    | Pages 74-77 |

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

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

D Chase

- a) Appointment of the OPSBA director and alternate director for the 2017-2018 term and voting delegate and alternate voting delegate for the annual general meeting and regional council meetings for the 2017-2018 term.

**Recommended Motion:**

"That \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed to serve as OPSBA Director for the 2017-2018 term and to hold the position of voting delegate for the annual general meeting and regional council meetings for the 2017-2018 term; and

That \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed to serve as OPSBA Alternate Director for the 2017-2018 term and to hold the position of alternate voting delegate for the annual general meeting and regional council meetings for the 2017-2018 term."

**6. Future Meetings**

Page 78

The June 2017 calendar is attached.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Recommended Motion:**

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

**May 23, 2017 Board Meeting  
Director's Update to Trustees**

**Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Neven Basara, Andrew Bonomo,  
Austin Law, Aidan McAllister and Sarah Ricci, Students, A.N. Myer SS**

Students in the Specialized School to Community (SSTC) department at A.N. Myer Secondary School have taken on the task of keeping the school running like a well-oiled machine. There are five teams that take care of morning coffee, run the school's recycling program, clean school uniforms, deliver books, resources and supplies to classrooms and keep the school's many gardens manicured. These five teams are led by five amazing student leaders that keep the school ticking.

Aidan McAllister the Myer barista delivers impeccable customer service to the "Coffee Cart" clientele. He makes the rounds every morning, delivering a perfect cup of coffee with a smile!

Austin Law is in the business of making sure Myer stays green. He keeps the recycling crew moving and has won awards for his environmentally conscious actions. Austin single handedly accumulated the second largest collection of discarded pop cans from within the school property.

Myer sports teams are grateful for the work of Neven Basara, who keeps their team uniforms fresh, clean and ready for the next game through the Myer laundry business.

It takes a bit of muscle to deliver the many boxes and packages that arrive at a busy school like Myer and teachers depend on timely deliveries to keep their programs running smoothly. Andrew Bonomo gets the job done and there is never a job too big for him.

The SSTC landscaping crew gets top marks for their work keeping Myer's award winning gardens in shape. Thanks to Sarah Ricci's horticulture skills, the Myer family enjoys the beautifully maintained courtyards and manicured gardens.

These student leaders are hardworking, conscientious and always go the extra mile for their school. Congratulations for all of your hard work and leadership that you exhibit at A.N. Myer Secondary School every day throughout the school year. You are all very deserving of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions!

### **Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Michael Fitzgerald, Teacher, Eastdale SS**

Mike Fitzgerald has been the "backbone" of the Specialized School to Community (SSTC) program at Eastdale SS for 14 years. He has been the driving force behind the annual DSBN, Specialized School to Community Beach Volleyball Tournament. This is an opportunity for secondary students with disabilities and special needs to come together and experience teamwork, sportsmanship, and have fun. Mike, a sports enthusiast, wanted to give his students an opportunity to be on a team, play against other schools, and be part of a larger community. Mike believes in each of his students, sees their strengths, not disabilities, and is an exemplary teacher.

Mike has taught at several DSBN schools throughout his career and has worn many hats. He has always been committed to supporting students with special learning needs and giving them extracurricular opportunities. At Governor Simcoe SS Mike coached the Jr. Boys' basketball team. Recognizing that students grow both inside and outside of the classroom, Coach Fitzgerald has been giving his time since he began teaching. At the former Kernahan Park SS, Mike took courses to be the School Librarian. He was committed to the students of Kernahan Park and recognized their potential so he created reading programs that focused on interests and made the sports page come alive – getting reluctant readers to read!

In the late 1990s, Mike was diagnosed with an aggressive form of Leukemia; the prognosis was not good. Mike was determined and with the support of his wife Nancy, and children, John, Meaghan, and Will, he recovered and returned to teaching slowly, while he built up his strength.

At Eastdale SS, Mike joined the Special Needs Program where he has taught for 14 years. Mike's colleagues describe him as a quiet leader, never seeking attention or applause. They look to Mike for advice and count on him in tough situations. Mike's mild and calming manner helps students regulate and return to learning. When he walks into the room, students feel supported and cared for. Mike genuinely enjoys the kids he teaches and every day at lunch, he can be found in the cafeteria with his students around the table. They talk about sports, music, and their families. Big wins from the night before are celebrated with high fives, and they tease Mike when his team loses. Everyone is smiling; every student is a star on Mike's roster, his caring nature and kind manner helps kids believe in themselves.

Mike's personal determination and his passion for working with students with disabilities make him an extraordinary human, amazing teacher and an outstanding mentor and colleague. Mike, you are most deserving of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions. Congratulations!

### **Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Andrea Grieve and Lisa Nazar, Administrators, DSBN Academy**

It has been said, "great things are only possible with outrageous requests." In 2009, the DSBN had just such a request. The Board wanted to look at the potential of creating a school that would open a world of opportunities for students. This school would help first generation students achieve their dreams of post-secondary education. In 2011, that school became the DSBN Academy.

On June 28, the Academy will celebrate the achievements of its first graduating class. Forty-five young men and women will walk across the stage, receive their diplomas, and all of them have been accepted to a post-secondary school. This accomplishment is due to the collaborative effort and dedication of the staff, students, parents and administrators. Today, we want to celebrate the achievements of the leaders who support these graduates as well as the rest of the students who are all on their way to graduation.

Andrea Grieve and Lisa Nazar are the administrators of the Academy's elementary and secondary panels, and are richly deserving of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions award.

Leadership is not a position. It is an action, an example. It is something that Andrea Grieve lives on a daily basis. During the school's track and field meet, Andrea went out into the pouring rain to run the last 100 metres with students struggling to finish. She cheered them on, encouraged them, and even held their hand to help guide them to the finish line.

Students are often waiting in the office area to see Mrs. Grieve. They value her support, her guidance and she helps them build their capacity and resilience when faced with obstacles. She is there for them with honest advice that never under estimates their ability and potential.

It is her willingness to lead by example that has typified her work as an instructional leader at the school as well. Her staff says, "she knows exactly what goes on, and why, in our classrooms." When Andrea meets with students and parents, she knows exactly what projects those students are working on, as well as their strengths and challenges.

Elementary teachers at the Academy say that Andrea is an "energetic, reflective, and passionate leader." She is always ready to listen to questions and provide insightful thoughts. Teachers appreciate that Andrea is receptive to hearing their needs, and ready to do what is necessary to provide her teachers with the resources they need to help their students become successful.

In fact, her teachers say there is not a day that goes by that Andrea is not in the classroom. She literally and figuratively goes the extra mile to help her students thrive.

Lisa Nazar has been with the Academy from the beginning. She was part of the design team that refined the concept for what became the Academy, and she was the lead creator of the Academy's high school program.

Over and above the work she has done on the creation of the Academy and its programs, it is Lisa's impact on students that makes her so deserving of this award.

In supporting her nomination, one student wrote that Mrs. Nazar "inspired me to be better than I ever thought I could be. She has been a huge part of how I have grown." Others said, "she was the first person with authority who took me seriously. She said she cared about my future, and proved it over the years. I don't know what I would do without her."

This optimistic and positive leadership style has made an impact on her staff as well. One staff member said that Lisa "gives me hope when I think I've lost it." Lisa has an extremely strong



sense of vision and purpose that inspires those around her. Another teacher said Lisa has demonstrated that “you can have high expectations for academics, but still meet the needs of students that struggle with personal issues.”

Lisa demonstrates why teachers should aspire to positions of leadership within the DSBN: to help students, show them that they matter, and take every opportunity to improve their lives.

For these reasons, and so many others, Andrea Grieve and Lisa Nazar are deserving recipients of the Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions. Congratulations!

## **Local**

### **In the Soil Arts Festival**

A.N. Myer Secondary School’s Drama Department recently contributed to the In the Soil Arts Festival. The three day festival has been described as ‘an explosion of creativity’ that includes music, media, theatre, dance, installations and one-time, out-of-the-box performance experiences.

Students and staff were excited to showcase the talents of their theatre troupe, Myer’s Masked Mauraunders. “Gnaw”, a creative retelling of Hansel and Gretel, was touted as being a highlight of the festival’s opening night ~ “Absolutely fantastic storyline! Breathtaking and intense. One of my top favourite youth theatre productions.” – Audience Member

Congratulations to A.N. Myer staff and students for their contributions to the festival!

### **Earth Week Challenge**

Over 24 DSBN schools with over 300 students from grades 4-8 participated in the April Earth Week Challenge at the Walker Living Campus at Woodend. The Challenge ran for four days prior to Earth Day on April 22, 2017.

Below is the link to Cogeco’s segment featuring DSBN staff at students!

<https://youtu.be/MIOIFaA5tes>

### **Drone Racing At E.L. Crossley SS**

E.L. Crossley SS has started the first provincial STEM-based secondary school drone racing club.

Sharon Keller, the program leader for science at the school, was introduced to drone racing last July while supervising students who were taking care of the gardens at E.L. Crossley. One day she noticed Abbey Solomon, a member of Niagara FPV squad, flying around the front yard of the school. Sharon said, “I felt like I was in a sci-fi movie. Then I saw he was flying a drone and watching him piqued my curiosity.”

Once the two started talking the idea to start the school’s drone racing club was formed. Sharon Keller and members of the Niagara FPV Squad help students build the drones, which coincides with the fundamentals of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). After a general call out to students, 16 students from grades 9 to 12 joined the club.

Building a drone means having to find out things like how electricity works, proper weight distribution, power to weight ratios, and more. One team member wants to be an electrical engineer and he joined the club to learn more about electrical components in the drone, figuring it will help him when he goes to university.

Once students have finished building the drones, they hope to actually compete and take part in race competitions!

### **Teacher Award**

Congratulations to Fern Lackenbauer from Eden High School who received an OBEA Award of Merit at the spring conference in Toronto recently. This award is given to teachers that promote and increase awareness of Business Studies.

Congratulations to Fern and to her dedication to students and business studies!

### **DSBN Skills Team**

The DSBN Skills Team traveled to Toronto on May 1 to take on the province at the Skills Canada Ontario Provincial Competition. The team of 44 teachers and students represented over 20 different challenges ranging from Architectural Technology and Design, Floristry, Auto Service Technology and Job Skill Demonstration to name a few.

The students came well prepared for the event and the hard work paid off with all of our competitors placing in the top 10 in their respective challenges. This is a major accomplishment for any board at a Provincial Level!



Capturing gold medals from our team were:

- Joel Snider ~ Port Colborne HS, Welding
- Jacob Naumann and Stephen Koiter ~ Welland Centennial SS, Team Carpentry (this is an incredible feat against a field of over 50 entries)
- Aidan Hawkins and Cameron Lacelle ~ Port Colborne HS, Geographic Information Systems

Christian McGrath from Westlane SS captured a silver medal in Refrigeration and Michael Shannon captured a bronze medal in Hairstyling.

Perseverance and commitment was well demonstrated as many of our students came back from previous trips to the Skills Competition to better their scores and place in the medals.

All competing students and their accompanying teachers represented the DSBN with the highest level of professionalism and we are very proud of their achievements on the Provincial Stage.



We anticipate another strong finish at Skills Canada in Winnipeg from our advancing Gold Medal Welder, Joel Snider and his teacher Vic Barker coming up in early June, best of luck !

### **Silver Birch and Red Maple Student Conferences**

The Silver Birch® and Red Maple™ Student Conferences are the culminating events for students in grade 5 and 6 (Silver Birch®) and grade 7 and 8 (Red Maple™) who have participated in the Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading® programs within their schools. These system-wide celebrations provide our dedicated readers and book club members with the opportunity to connect with their peers and educators from across the DSBN who have a shared passion for literacy. Students interact with Canadian authors and participate in a variety of hands-on book-related workshops and activities to develop an appreciation of Canadian literature and fuel their love of reading and writing.

On Friday, May 5 more than 1000 students from 54 elementary schools gathered together at the Scotiabank Convention Centre to participate in a day dedicated to celebrating their reading accomplishments. Sixty unique book-related workshops were offered to students ranging from Delicious and Disgusting Snacks, Parkour and Survivor Math Challenge for grade 5 and 6 Silver Birch® readers to Candied DNA, Greased Lightning Dance-a-thon and Percussion Jam Session for grade 7 and 8 Red Maple™ readers. The day also included keynote addresses, small group presentations and book signings from Canadian authors, Helaine Becker, Kira Vermond, Richard Scrimger and Kevin Sylvester. Book sales, a video chat booth led by Sir Winston Churchill students and the Groove EDGEducation movement session were other highlights of the day.

#dsbnsilverbirch and #dsbnredmaple provides a snapshot of the excitement of this event.

### **Indigenous Days at Governor Simcoe SS**

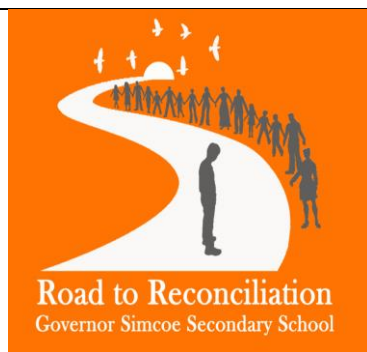
On Friday, May 12 and Monday, May 13, Governor Simcoe Secondary School, led by their Students For Equality Group (SFE), held a Chanie Wenjack Walk followed by Indigenous workshops. The Chanie Wenjack Walk was a 1.8 km walk around the Governor Simcoe Community.

Friday started with an official opening from the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre Men's Drum Group, which included a DSBN student. Approximately 400 grade 9 and 10 students, 87 grade 5-7 students and 8 students all from Dalewood, Parnall, Pine Grove and Prince Philip Public Schools participated in the walk. In addition, community member Marie Jones participated. Marie is from the Niagara Chapter of Native Women and child advocate at FACS Niagara for children up to the age of 15.

The elementary students participated in workshops (Healing Through Art – Painting Feathers, Medicine Wheel Teaching, Talking Circle and Create Your Own Talking Sticks, and We are All Treaty People: The Two-Row Wampum) throughout the day. All grade 9 and 10 students at Governor Simcoe and 200 grade 11 and 12 students were provided the opportunity to participate in the same workshops along with additional ones such as Dreamcatchers, Inuit Culture – Past and Present, and Faceless Dolls.

The workshops were run by DSBN's Indigenous Advisor, DSBN's Secondary Indigenous Support Teacher, DSBN staff, Community Members, and Governor Simcoe students. Each workshop provided education on residential schools and their impact on Indigenous people – past and present. Through the workshops, students and teachers were able to gain a deeper

understanding of Indigenous culture and traditions. The learning from each provided opportunity for reflection on how we can do our part on the Road to Reconciliation.



Chanie Wenjack was a young First Nations boy who died during his journey home from his residential school. After escaping from the residential school, Chanie had to walk 600 km in cold, winter conditions, and unfortunately perished in the process. Governor Simcoe Secondary School's Students For Equality Club has organized this opportunity to honour Chanie's memory by hosting a walk where students accumulate 600 km throughout the day and learn about Indigenous affairs. While residential schools are no longer running, their effects on the Indigenous population will be seen for generations. It is our duty as Canadian citizens to be an active participant on the "Road to Reconciliation."



## Board Report DSBN and Provincial Graduation Rate May 23, 2017

### Background:

A secondary school graduation is an important milestone in a student's life and provides an important foundation for reaching their future goals and aspirations. This is the third year that the Ministry of Education has released graduation rates for each school board.

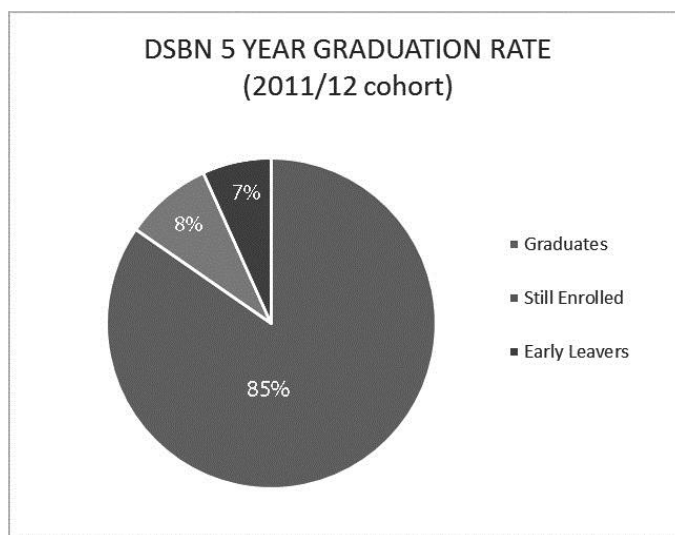
### Calculation:

This year's graduation rate was calculated by the Ministry based on the group of students who started Grade nine in the 2011/12 school year. These students form the basis of each school board's graduation rate. Their progress is tracked by the Ministry of Education at any school they are attending across Ontario. Students who have moved out of Ontario are removed from the cohort calculation. This cohort's graduation status after five years is reported in the school board where the students started their grade nine year.

### Results:

The five year graduation rate for DSBN has remained at 85%. This means that for the cohort of students who started Grade 9 in 2011-12, 85% had graduated by the end of the 2015/16 school year. Eight percent of these students are still attending a secondary school in Ontario. The remaining seven percent are considered early school leavers, meaning that they have not graduated and are not currently attending a secondary school in Ontario. Provincially the five year graduation rates increased by 1%.

For the same cohort of students, 79% of our cohort of students graduated after four years, an increase of 2%. The Provincial four year rate was also 79%, an increase of 1%.



	2009-10 cohort	2010-11 cohort	2011-12 cohort	change
5 year - Provincial	84	85	86	+ 2%
5 year - DSBN	84	85	85	+1%
4 year - Provincial	76	78	79	+3%
4 year - DSBN	75	77	79	+4%

DSBN staff efforts have resulted in the improvement in the percentage of students graduating with their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. A breadth of innovative programming, targeted interventions, as well as supports for student mental health and well-being are leading to the increases in achievement. We continue to expand programming offerings to meet student interests and post-secondary pathways including: Specialist High Skills Majors, Dual Credits, Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, cooperative education, eLearning, Alternative Programming, ELL supports, special education, summer reach ahead credits and FNMI programming. The ongoing increases in our credit accumulation in Grades 9, 10 and 11 are assisting our students attaining the required elements to graduate.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McGregor  
Superintendent of Education

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

# SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

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**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 1909 to 1923, for the month of April 2017, is as follows.

Employee Benefits	\$ 11,117,157.22
Transportation	1,729,319.63
Utilities	816,919.66
Other	<u>5,661,762.95</u>
Total	<u><b>\$ 19,325,159.46</b></u>

**Recommended Motion:**

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1909 to 1923, for the month of April 2017, totaling \$19,325,159.46 be received.”**

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Veld  
Superintendent of Business Services

Board Meeting of May 23, 2017

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





Laura Elliott, Director of Education and Secretary

April 11, 2017

Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

**Attention: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada**

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

**Re: Request for Reduction of Class Size Requirements for Native Language Courses**

At the January 24, 2017 Board meeting of the Thames Valley District School Board, the following motion was moved by Trustee Tisdale and seconded by Trustee Schuyler:

**That a letter be sent to the Federal Government emphasizing their commitment and responsibility to fully fund First Nations, Inuit and Métis student's education.**

Through the ninety-four calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, our government has recognized the atrocities that occurred in residential schools that saw abuse of our students along with them being prevented from learning their language and culture.

As a result, there are concerns of First Nations communities losing their language and identity. Our school board would like to raise the concerns over the lack of resources that are currently being provided for our First Nations students on reserves. The fact that First Nations communities are provided less education funding per student than our provincially funded students continues the disgraceful legacy of previous governments that allowed residential schools to operate for so many generations.

Furthermore, we would like to ask that the Federal Government work with the Ontario Government to provide further funding for First Nations language classes for our urban students. Currently in our school board, the Ministry of Education requires a class to have twelve (12) pupils to be fully funded. This creates an obstacle when we are unable to create the critical mass needed in our urban schools with First Nations students. The



Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

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April 11, 2017

Thames Valley District School Board has called on the Ontario Government to reduce the number of pupils required for a First Nations language class to five to help ensure more students have access to learning their language.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you as we move forward to improving our education system for all of our students.

Sincerely Yours,



Matthew Reid  
Chair of the Board



Phil Schuyler  
First Nations Trustee

cc: Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario  
David Zimmer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
Laura Elliott, Director of Education, TVDSB  
OPSBA  
Ontario School Board Chairs



Laura Elliott, Director of Education and Secretary

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April 11, 2017

Ministry of Education  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

**Attention: Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education**

Dear Minister Hunter:

**Re: Request for Reduction of Class Size Requirements for Native Language Courses**

At the January 24, 2017, Board meeting of the Thames Valley District School Board, Trustee Schuyler moved the following motion that was carried:

**That the Chair of the Board, in collaboration with the First Nation Trustee write a letter to the Ontario Ministry of Education requesting that the class size required to offering Native Language be reduced from 12 to 5 students in Ontario schools. This would also be done in collaboration with the Federal Government who has the responsibility for funding First Nation education.**

During the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, there were ninety-four calls to action that flowed from the abuses that occurred at residential schools in Canada. Through the atrocities that occurred in residential schools, our First Nations communities lost their language. Furthermore, their culture was denied by the government and churches that ran the schools.

As a result of these actions, it is incumbent upon the government to help ensure that our current and future First Nations students have the opportunity to learn their native languages and help open the doors to learn their culture. It is important that not only students on reserves are able to access language courses but also those First Nations students who are living in urban settings and attending a variety of our schools.

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**Thames Valley District School Board - Office of the Chairperson**

1250 Dundas Street, P.O. Box 5888, London, ON N6A 5L1 Tel: 519-452-2000 Ext. 20219 Fax: 519-452-2396 website: [www.tvdsb.ca](http://www.tvdsb.ca)

***We build each student's tomorrow, every day.***

Ministry of Education  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

- 2 -

April 11, 2017

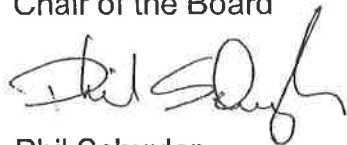
The Ministry currently has criteria for a class size of twelve (12) students for our school board to be able to offer a fully funded First Nations language class. This poses a major obstacle in many of our urban schools to run a class. Furthermore, when we do have the critical mass to run a class we are not able to recognize the diverse native languages that are found within our region. It contradicts the goals of the Truth and Reconciliation's Calls to Action to require an Ojibway First Nations child to learn the Oneida (Iroquois) language at their school. The Thames Valley District School Board urges the Provincial Government to work with the Federal Government and properly fund First Nations Language classes and reduce the class size to a minimum of five (5) students to ensure more students will have access to learn and celebrate their language and culture.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you more as we move forward to improving our education system for all of our students.

Sincerely,



Matthew Reid  
Chair of the Board



Phil Schuyler  
First Nations Trustee

cc: Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario  
David Zimmer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
Laura Elliott, Director of Education, TVDSB  
OPSBA  
Ontario School Board Chairs

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**CLERK'S DEPARTMENT**

April 25, 2017

The Honourable Mitzie Hunter  
Minister of Education  
Queens Park  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1L2

[minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)  
[mhunter.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:mhunter.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Dear Honourable Minister Hunter:

**Re: Request to Re-write the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG) & Place an Immediate & Retroactive Moratorium on School Closures until the PARG is Rewritten**

This is to confirm that on Monday, April 24, 2017 West Lincoln Township Council adopted the following resolution and we respectfully request your attention to this matter:

**WHEREAS** the current Accommodation Review process is not reflective of the reality of rural school and community life;

**AND WHEREAS** rural schools are integral to the future of rural communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario recognizes that it is critical that continued student achievement and well-being form part of the review process for school closures;

**AND WHEREAS** school closures impact single-school small rural communities in educational, social and economic aspects to a far greater degree than those who would be impacted in multi-school urban communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of West Lincoln is a small rural community who is deeply concerned that the current process to consider rural school closures is not inclusive and the timelines do not provide for adequate community input;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of West Lincoln and its schools should be considered to be part of a rural community;

**AND WHEREAS** the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) is not defined as a rural school board because of having larger urban communities within its jurisdiction (i.e. City of St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne and Welland) and that the Province should have different guidelines with respect to the closure of schools in rural areas versus urban centres;

**AND WHEREAS** the length of time that rural student(s) could be on a bus to travel from their home to school and vice versa would, in a lot of cases be very lengthy and an unacceptable duration of time;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario is not adhering to their own policies/guidelines with respect to developing complete communities (i.e. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Provincial Policy Statement and Places to Grow Act) and that all ministries, including the Ministry of Education, should follow the same Provincial policies/guidelines that municipalities are required to adhere to with respect to future intensification, development and growth;

**AND WHEREAS** prior to any scheduled or proposed closures of schools, the Province of Ontario needs to ensure that School Boards have thoroughly investigated and taken into account those municipalities that have received approvals for intensification/growth so that schools are not closed prematurely without having proper discussions with both Municipal and Regional Planning & Development staff as it relates to future growth projections;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of West Lincoln supports the actions that have been taken by many municipalities within the Province of Ontario as well as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) through their correspondence to the Minister of Education dated January 5, 2017 and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) in their correspondence dated March 15, 2017 with respect to, but not limited to, school closures, Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the Accommodation Review Process;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario should be concerned for the health of all our children, for the quality of education of all children in Ontario as well as the viability of our towns, villages and neighbourhoods which are negatively impacted by reducing access to schools within each community; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Municipality of the Township of West Lincoln hereby requests that the Minister of Education establish an immediate moratorium on the Accommodation Review Process in all school boards until such time as a review of the above mentioned impacts on small rural communities is studied, completed and the results and recommendations are implemented; and

**THAT**, the Minister of Education rewrite the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG), in order to take into consideration community and economic value consideration of rural communities and provide for a more democratic process; and,

**THAT**, the Minister of Education place a retroactive moratorium on those school closures that are to occur during the current year and over the next couple of years until such time as the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline is rewritten and the recommendations applied to all current and proposed school closures; and,

**THAT**, this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Education, Premier Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the District School Board of Niagara, the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), MPP Sam Oosterhoff (Niagara West-Glanbrook) and all municipalities in Ontario.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated and we trust that our Council's request will be taken into consideration.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905-957-3346 ext. 6720.

Sincerely



Carolyn Langley  
Clerk

cc. The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
The Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure - [bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
The Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs - [bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education & Secretary, DSBN - [Warren.Hoshizaki@dsbn.org](mailto:Warren.Hoshizaki@dsbn.org)  
Karen Bellamy, DSBN - [karen.bellamy@dsbn.org](mailto:karen.bellamy@dsbn.org)  
Diane Chase., DSBN Trustee (West Lincoln/Wainfleet) - [diane.chase@dsbn.org](mailto:diane.chase@dsbn.org)  
John Crocco, Director of Education – Niagara Catholic District School Board  
[john.crocco@ncdsb.com](mailto:john.crocco@ncdsb.com)  
Father Paul MacNeil, NCDSB Trustee & Chair – [macneil65@gmail.com](mailto:macneil65@gmail.com)  
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP – Niagara West – Glanbrook - [sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board – [lruder@amo.on.ca](mailto:lruder@amo.on.ca)  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) – [roma@roma.on.ca](mailto:roma@roma.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities



April 26, 2017

Ms. Dale Robinson, Board Chair  
District School Board of Niagara  
191 Carlton Street  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P4

Dear Ms. Robinson

As you are aware, at their regular meeting of February 21st, 2017, Council of the Town of Pelham received a delegation regarding "Names Matter" and endorsed the following 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 the Minister of Education, The Honourable Mitzi 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:**

From the Clerk's Department



**Administrative  
Services**

-2-

- reflect DSBN vision or core values and community composition;
- recognized 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 an 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 1997 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.

From the Clerk's Department



**Administrative  
Services**



-3-

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT in order to demonstrate truth, reconciliation and understanding to all communities, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Pelham strongly requests that the name Wellington Heights not be used;**

**AND FURTHER THAT Council strongly requests 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 Mitzi Hunter, and the Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism, The Honourable Michael Coteau.**

Please be advised that a copy of this correspondence was previously circulated to the Director of Education, DSBN as well as each member of the DSBN Board of Directors, including all attachments. This correspondence is being provided to you directly at this time, at the request of Mr. Hoshizaki, Director of Education. Copies were circulated to those listed in the Resolution on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, and again via email to each individual Board Member on March 13, 2017 including all attachments.

Yours very truly,



(Mrs.) Nancy J. Bozzato, *Dipl.M.M., AMCT*  
Town Clerk

Encl

c: Mayor D. Augustyn

From the Clerk's Department



**Administrative  
Services**

## REQUEST TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF PELHAM

NAME:

Nancy Beamer

ADDRESS:

1650 Centre St Ridgeville

POSTAL CODE:

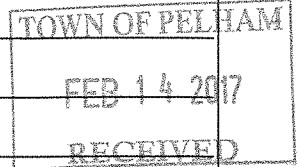
L0S 1M0

TELEPHONE #:

905 892 5280

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

nancybeamer5@gmail.com



The Council Chambers is equipped with a laptop and projector. Please check your audio/visual needs:

☐ Laptop☐ Speakers☐ Internet Connection

PLEASE INDICATE THE DATE OF THE COUNCIL MEETING YOU WISH TO ATTEND AS A DELEGATION:

Regular Council: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month; 6:30 p.m. (except summer schedule)

DATE: Tues. Feb. 21, 2017

Please identify the desired action of Council that you are seeking on this issue:

To have the Council adopt the resolution and send it to the DSN for further action.

I have never spoken on this issue before. Key points of my deputation are as follows:

(please attach full presentation)

that Wellington Heights is an offensive name and should not be used for the Fenwick elementary school

If an individual appears as a delegation before Council, a further deputation from the same individual concerning the same topic(s) will not be permitted unless there is *significant* new information to be brought forward, subject to approval by the Mayor and Clerk. Specific new information must be identified on this form and/or attached for approval.

I have spoken on this issue before. Specific new information I wish to submit is as follows:

(please attach full presentation)

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, Requests to Appear before Council for items not listed on the agenda must be received by the Clerk at least 14 days prior to the scheduled meeting. Requests to Appear for matters to be listed on the Council agenda are to be submitted to the Clerk before 12:00 noon on the Wednesday immediately preceding the scheduled Council meeting. **All requests must include a copy of the presentation materials as detailed in the deputation protocol. Failure to provide the required information on time will result in a deferral or denial. Delegations are limited to 10 minutes.**

I have read and understand the deputation protocol on the back of this form; and, that the information contained on this form, including any attachments, will become public documents and listed on Town Meeting Agendas and on the Town's website.

I also understand that presentation materials must be submitted with this deputation form. Electronic presentations must be e-mailed to [NJBozzato@pelham.ca](mailto:NJBozzato@pelham.ca) in accordance with the deadlines outlined above.

Signature

Nancy Beamer

Date

Feb 14, 2017

es  
Feb 21

# Resolution

To Urge the  
District School Board of Niagara  
To Not Use The Name  
Wellington Heights  
On The Elementary School in  
Fenwick

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Mitzi 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 1997 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;

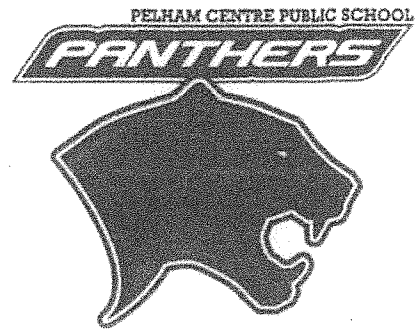
AND WHEREAS the school will not reopen until September 2017.

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 Mitzi Hunter, and the Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism, The Honourable Michael Coteau for information.



May 26, 2016

Dear E. W. Farr Memorial and Pelham Centre Public School Families:

We are pleased to inform you that at the DSBN Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 24, Trustees chose "*Wellington Heights Public School*" as the new name for our school.

This name was ranked first on a list of three options submitted to the Board of Trustees in accordance with DSBN Policy A-09, Naming/Renaming of Schools.

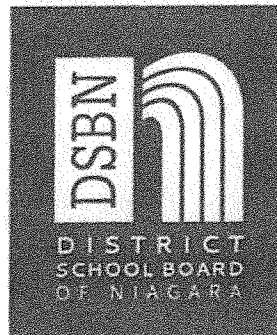
This name has a connection to this area as well as to the War of 1812. According to Historical Society records, the "Heights" was located on 900 acres atop the same moraine. As well, the proposed fort, named after the Duke of Wellington, would have been located near the intersection of Tice and Effingham Roads. The structure of the fort was to be located to the east of Effingham Road and the "Heights" continued west an additional 500 acres into what are the current E.W Farr and Pelham Centre school boundaries.

We are looking forward to working with students from both schools as they select the mascot that will inspire students not only today but for years to come. Also, watch for a new school logo and colours to be introduced.

In September 2016, we will begin our journey united together at Wellington Heights Public School.

Mr. S. Anderson, Principal  
E.W. Farr Memorial Public School

Mrs. S. Lawrence, Principal  
Pelham Centre Public School

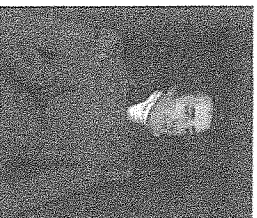




## Wellington Heights

### The Duke of Wellington (Arthur Wellesley)

After the War of 1812 the British government purchased a 900 acre plot of land naming it "Wellington Heights" after the first Duke of Wellington, Arthur



Wellesley. It was located on top of the Niagara Escarpment between current-day Fonthill and Fenwick. It was seen as an excellent defence spot in preparation for future battles. In the end, however, it was never needed for this purpose and eventually sold as farmland in the 1860s.

"Wellington Heights" is the highest point in Niagara boasting incredible views. From its edge, on a clear day, people can see all the way across Lake Ontario, to Toronto, Hamilton, New York State, and beyond.



## The Creeks of Pelham

### Coyle Creek



Coyle Creek is a small winding creek that flows through the municipalities of Pelham, Welland, and West Lincoln, Ontario. It is a sanctuary for many different kinds of plants and animals. Eventually it makes it's way into the Welland River.

### Twelve Mile Creek

The headwaters of the enchanted and beautiful Twelve Mile Creek are located in Pelham. It meanders its way throughout different parts of Niagara ultimately flowing into Lake Ontario.



## The Comfort Maple

It is one of the oldest sugar maple trees in Canada today. It is 90 feet in height and 85 feet wide. It is located in North Pelham on Metter Road.



The Comfort Maple is named after the Comfort family who first bought the property in 1816.

## Vegetation in Pelham

Pelham is best known for some of its pristine Carolinian forests as well as world class orchards, and crops. Some of the vegetation in Pelham consists of different fruit trees, crops and plants associated with farming. The beautiful three-petaled trillium flower, one of Ontario's proud symbols can also be found throughout.



Written by:





Attach 3

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

January 18, 2017

Dear colleagues:

Last year, the Ontario government released *The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous People*, outlining Ontario's response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action. Among the commitments made by the province in *The Journey Together* is the commitment to discourage the use of names that are considered offensive to Indigenous people in organizations funded by the government.

As chairs of your board, I urge you to show leadership on this issue and ask for measures to address anything that could be considered offensive in your board. In addition, Deputy Minister Bruce Rodrigues will be in contact with Directors of Education to highlight the importance of working closely with our many Indigenous partners to review all school team names, logos and mascots in your board.

All boards will be asked to take measures to deepen understanding of the negative impact that stereotypes can have for individuals, staff and communities, as well as the school climate itself -- particularly with respect to Indigenous cultures, histories and perspectives. For more details, please see the attached memo.

Our publicly funded education system upholds the value that everyone, regardless of background or personal circumstances, should feel engaged and included. As such, all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on race, age, disability, or other factors are unacceptable in our schools.

I want to thank you for your commitment to ensuring safe, welcoming, respectful, and inclusive learning environments for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'MH'.

Mitzie Hunter, MBA

Minister

- c. Bruce Rodrigues
- Denys Giguère
- Denise Dwyer
- Steven Reid

# District School Board of Niagara

## POLICY

SECTION:	BOARD GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	POLICY:	A-09
TOPIC:	NAMING/RENAMING OF SCHOOLS	PAGE:	1 of 2
REVIEW DATE:	November 2017 January 2022	DATE:	April 2011 January 2017
		REVISED:	March 2015

The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) recognizes that the naming/renaming of a school is important for employees and students as well as to the surrounding community. As needed, an ad hoc committee for the purpose of naming/renaming shall be established in accordance with this policy.

### INITIATION OF NAMING/RENAMING PROCESS

The Superintendent of Education in the area of the school to be renamed will submit a request by letter to the Chair of the Board of Trustees. With appropriate input from the Board of Trustees, the Chair and the Director of Education will determine if a naming committee will be formed.

### COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

- Local Trustee(s) associated school
- School Administrator representative or designate
- Local School Council representative(s)
- Student representative(s)
- Superintendent of Education (serving as Chair and resource support)
- Community/Municipal representative if available

### ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

- The committee will be provided with a list of possible names by the Committee Chair
- The committee will evaluate suggestions and the information provided in support of the proposed name based on the naming criteria
- The committee will vote using a system outlined at the first meeting by the Committee Chair

### NAMING INPUT

- Input will be sought via DSBN and school communication vehicles including but not limited to newsletters/notices, websites and social media
- Naming criteria, along with deadlines for submission of names will be clearly communicated with requests for naming input

### NAMING CRITERIA

*To guide name selection, the Naming Committee will consider names that:*

- Inspire students
- Reflect DSBN's vision, mission, 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
- Recognizes an historical name or event which once applied to the area in which the school is located
- Identifies the community served by the school
- Uses the name of the street on which the school is located

*Proposed names cannot:*

- Be of current employees or members of the Board

District School Board of Niagara

**POLICY**

SECTION:	BOARD GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	POLICY:	A-09
TOPIC:	NAMING/RENAMING OF SCHOOLS	PAGE:	2 of 2
		DATE:	<del>April 2011</del> January 2017
REVIEW DATE:	<del>November 2017</del> January 2022	REVISED:	<del>March 2015</del>

**VOTING FOR THE NAME**

- Superintendent of Education will submit the top 3 names put forth by the committee with the rationale for each name to the Office of the Director of Education<sup>1</sup>
- The Director of Education staff coordinates the voting of the school name at a future regular meeting of the Board of Trustees<sup>2</sup>
- ~~Board of~~ Trustees will submit their preferences by ballot. Voting will continue until there is a clear majority<sup>3</sup>
- After voting has concluded, the Chair of the Board of Trustees will request that a motion be made to declare the new name of the school and the effective date. The motion will be seconded and passed by the Board of Trustees<sup>4</sup>

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Dental Surgeon

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## NEWS LOCAL

# Upset continues over Fenwick school name



By Laura Barton, Tribune Staff  
Wednesday, February 1, 2017 5:02:46 EST PM



Reclaim Our Name members Craig Stirtzinger and Gary Chambers, whose goal is to bring the name E.W. Farr Memorial Public School back to what will soon be called Wellington Heights Public School, stand by the old entrance to E.W. Farr. Laura Barton/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network

Members of the Reclaim Our Name committee are still concerned and fighting for the name E.W. Farr Memorial Public School to be maintained for a Fenwick elementary school.

In May 2016, District School Board of Niagara changed the name of E.W. Farr to Wellington Heights Public School as it and Pelham Centre Public School would be merging in fall 2017.

Students at the schools got to submit ideas for a new name and many picked Wellington Heights, the board has said.

But some Fenwick residents have issues with the name, including that changing the name takes away the history of the area, and the first Duke of Wellington Arthur Wellesley, after whom the school will be named, was not a nice guy and has no Canadian relevance.

"The Duke of Wellington never set foot in this country, let alone Pelham," said committee member Paul Bryant.

Wellesley was a British colonialist who committee member Nancy Beamer said perpetuated Eurocentric ideas and racism. She said he also had a hand in instituting Residential Schools.

Reportedly a fort was supposed to be built for him in the Pelham area, which was one of the bases for which the school board was justifying the name, but Beamer said the committee has done research and have proven that to be false.

Since the name change was approved, the group has been fighting with DSBN and the Ministry of Education to get it changed back to E.W. Farr.

Unlike Wellesley, Farr was a respected educator and principal in the Fenwick area.

"He was a man that was concerned about the community," said member Craig Stirtzinger.

The group says all petitions to DSBN superintendent Wesley Hahn and education director Warren Hoshizaki to change the name back to E.W. Farr have been met with negative response.

"It's not me who goes back and says I can't change it," Hahn said when asked about this.

He explained there is a board policy for naming and renaming schools, which was followed, and ultimately trustees are the ones who voted on and approved the name Wellington Heights. Those trustees, he said, have no intention of changing the name and even shot down a proposal to go back and discuss concerns.

From Hahn's perspective, the students are quite happy with the name change and have moved on from any anxiety it originally caused. He said he's in the school "quite often" and has seen students in their school T-shirts.

Thorold and Pelham trustee Dale Robinson said the decision has been made and it's time to move forward.

She said people opposed to the name are good people who believe in what they're doing, but the board decision hasn't changed.

Reclaim Our Name members are firm in their resolve, however. Beamer said they are continuing to compile all their documentation to fight the name change.

They are connecting with an ombudsman to have him or her look into the situation and, from there, they will continue to go through the proper channels.

"We're not giving up," said Stirtzinger. "It's wrong and we're going to correct it."

Beamer, Stirtzinger and Bryant are part of a team of four that meets every month to discuss the issues, but Beamer said they have many supporters.

lbarton@postmedia.com

Twitter: @LBartonTribune



PORT COLBORNE

**CITY OF PORT COLBORNE**

Municipal Offices  
66 Charlotte Street  
Port Colborne, Ontario  
L3K 3C8  
[www.portcolborne.ca](http://www.portcolborne.ca)

COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CLERK'S DIVISION

**Sent via E-mail**

[minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)

May 15, 2017

The Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education  
Queens Park  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2

Dear Honourable Minister:

**Re: Resolution of Support - Request to Re-write the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and Place an Immediate and Retroactive Moratorium on School Closures**

Please be advised that, at its meeting of May 8, 2017, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That the resolution received from the Town of West Lincoln Re: Request to Re-write the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG) and place an immediate and retroactive moratorium on school closures until the PARG is rewritten, be supported.

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference. Your favourable consideration of this matter is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

  
Ashley Grigg  
City Clerk

Encl.

cc: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure  
The Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education and Secretary, District School Board of Niagara  
Karen Bellamy, Executive Assistant, District School Board of Niagara  
Dave Schaubel, Trustee, District School Board of Niagara (Fort Erie/Port Colborne)  
Diane Chase, Trustee, District School Board of Niagara (West Lincoln/Wainfleet)  
John Crocco, Director of Education, Niagara Catholic District School Board  
Father Paul MacNeil, Trustee and Chair, Niagara Catholic District School Board  
Dino P. Sicoli, Trustee, Niagara Catholic District School Board (Fort Erie/Port Colborne, Wainfleet)  
Local Area Members of Provincial Parliament  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Region of Niagara and Local Area Municipalities



## CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

**RECEIVED BY  
COUNCIL**

April 25, 2017

**MAY 08 2017**

**A. GRIGG  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PORT COLBORNE**

The Honourable Mitzie Hunter  
Minister of Education  
Queens Park  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1L2

[minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)  
[mhunter.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:mhunter.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Dear Honourable Minister Hunter:

**Re: Request to Re-write the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG) & Place an Immediate & Retroactive Moratorium on School Closures until the PARG is Rewritten**

This is to confirm that on Monday, April 24, 2017 West Lincoln Township Council adopted the following resolution and we respectfully request your attention to this matter:

**WHEREAS** the current Accommodation Review process is not reflective of the reality of rural school and community life;

**AND WHEREAS** rural schools are integral to the future of rural communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario recognizes that it is critical that continued student achievement and well-being form part of the review process for school closures;

**AND WHEREAS** school closures impact single-school small rural communities in educational, social and economic aspects to a far greater degree than those who would be impacted in multi-school urban communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of West Lincoln is a small rural community who is deeply concerned that the current process to consider rural school closures is not inclusive and the timelines do not provide for adequate community input;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of West Lincoln and its schools should be considered to be part of a rural community;

**AND WHEREAS** the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) is not defined as a rural school board because of having larger urban communities within its jurisdiction (i.e. City of St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne and Welland) and that the Province should have different guidelines with respect to the closure of schools in rural areas versus urban centres;

**AND WHEREAS** the length of time that rural student(s) could be on a bus to travel from their home to school and vice versa would, in a lot of cases be very lengthy and an unacceptable duration of time;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario is not adhering to their own policies/guidelines with respect to developing complete communities (i.e. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Provincial Policy Statement and Places to Grow Act) and that all ministries, including the Ministry of Education, should follow the same Provincial policies/guidelines that municipalities are required to adhere to with respect to future intensification, development and growth;

**AND WHEREAS** prior to any scheduled or proposed closures of schools, the Province of Ontario needs to ensure that School Boards have thoroughly investigated and taken into account those municipalities that have received approvals for intensification/growth so that schools are not closed prematurely without having proper discussions with both Municipal and Regional Planning & Development staff as it relates to future growth projections;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of West Lincoln supports the actions that have been taken by many municipalities within the Province of Ontario as well as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) through their correspondence to the Minister of Education dated January 5, 2017 and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) in their correspondence dated March 15, 2017 with respect to, but not limited to, school closures, Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the Accommodation Review Process;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario should be concerned for the health of all our children, for the quality of education of all children in Ontario as well as the viability of our towns, villages and neighbourhoods which are negatively impacted by reducing access to schools within each community; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Municipality of the Township of West Lincoln hereby requests that the Minister of Education establish an immediate moratorium on the Accommodation Review Process in all school boards until such time as a review of the above mentioned impacts on small rural communities is studied, completed and the results and recommendations are implemented; and

**THAT**, the Minister of Education rewrite the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG), in order to take into consideration community and economic value consideration of rural communities and provide for a more democratic process; and,

**THAT**, the Minister of Education place a retroactive moratorium on those school closures that are to occur during the current year and over the next couple of years until such time as the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline is rewritten and the recommendations applied to all current and proposed school closures; and,


**THAT**, this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Education, Premier Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the District School Board of Niagara, the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), MPP Sam Oosterhoff (Niagara West-Glanbrook) and all municipalities in Ontario.



Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated and we trust that our Council's request will be taken into consideration.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905-957-3346 ext. 6720.

Sincerely



Carolyn Langley  
Clerk

cc. The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
The Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure - [bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
The Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs - [bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education & Secretary, DSBN - [Warren.Hoshizaki@dsbn.org](mailto:Warren.Hoshizaki@dsbn.org)  
Karen Bellamy, DSBN - [karen.bellamy@dsbn.org](mailto:karen.bellamy@dsbn.org)  
Diane Chase., DSBN Trustee (West Lincoln/Wainfleet) - [diane.chase@dsbn.org](mailto:diane.chase@dsbn.org)  
John Crocco, Director of Education – Niagara Catholic District School Board  
[john.crocco@ncdsb.com](mailto:john.crocco@ncdsb.com)  
Father Paul MacNeil, NCDSB Trustee & Chair – [macneil65@gmail.com](mailto:macneil65@gmail.com)  
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP – Niagara West – Glanbrook - [sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board – [lruder@amo.on.ca](mailto:lruder@amo.on.ca)  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) – [roma@roma.on.ca](mailto:roma@roma.on.ca)  
All Ontario Municipalities

# June 2017

## Trustee Calendar

May 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jul 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 28	29	30 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Excellence in Education	31	Jun 1	2	3
4	5	6 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Program & Planning	7	8 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM SEAC	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM SAL Committee	16	17
18	19	20 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Policy Committee	21 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Finance	22	23	24
25 6:15 PM - 7:15 PM Board Meeting	26	27	28	29	30 All Day Event PD Day	Jul 1