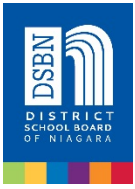




PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021
5:30 pm – M.S. Teams
AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
4. New Business:
 - Elementary and Secondary Boundary Changes – Holloway Bay Road, Fort Erie and Port Colborne Municipal BoundaryStacy Veld
 - Try-A-Trade.....Mary Anne Gage
 - Music MondayMarian Reimer Friesen and Helen McGregor
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment
7. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
REPORT TO PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Elementary & Secondary School Boundary Changes

Holloway Bay Road – Fort Erie & Port Colborne Municipal Boundary

Background

The Planning Department maintains and regularly reviews school boundaries. Boundary changes are typically recommended to address (balance) enrolment at schools; however, occasionally boundary modifications are necessary to reflect today's school environment, improve transportation efficiency, or to improve clarity. This report details the existing elementary and secondary boundary situations at the Fort Erie – Port Colborne municipal line, and makes recommendations for boundary changes.

Elementary and Secondary Boundaries: Fort Erie – Port Colborne Municipal Line

The municipal boundary line between Fort Erie and Port Colborne runs along Holloway Bay Road from Netherby Road to Lake Erie. This is a large rural area that is outside the urban areas for both Fort Erie and Port Colborne and is dominated by agricultural lands with a handful of rural residences primarily south of Highway 3.

The elementary and secondary boundaries follow the municipal boundary with properties on the west side of Holloway Bay Road boundaried to Port Colborne schools and properties on the east side of Holloway Bay Road boundaried to Fort Erie schools. The map attached as Appendix A shows the current boundary alignment.

Normally having school boundaries align with municipal boundaries is ideal because students attend schools within their municipality. However, in large rural areas like the Holloway Bay Road area, school boundaries that align with municipal boundaries can be problematic from a transportation and location perspective.

Having school boundaries that run along the centerline of the road is not ideal for transportation. Students on one side of the road are bussed in one direction while a student right across the street will be bussed in the opposite direction. In this case, the majority of students on the west side of Holloway Bay Road, in Port Colborne, are already attending Fort Erie schools most likely because the schools are closer and their neighbours on the east side of the road attend Fort Erie schools.

Addresses in rural areas are tied to postal routes that can extend into a different municipality. A residence on the west side of Holloway Bay Road in Port Colborne may be on a Stevensville (Fort Erie) route. Holloway Bay Road is even more problematic because it is not continuous north of Highway 3 but broken up into different segments. Address ranges overlap on the west and east sides and along the north and south sections and all house numbers are even. This makes the process of locating addresses on the ground to determine the correct school boundary challenging.

Proposed Boundary Change

To improve the situation along Holloway Bay Road, the area shown as Zones A and B on Appendix B is proposed to be transferred as follows:

- Elementary students in Zone A would attend Stevensville PS;
- Elementary students in Zone B would attend John Brant PS;
- Secondary students in both Zones A and B would attend Greater Fort Erie SS; and,

There are currently 9 students living in Zone A and B that would be affected by the boundary change. Seven of the 9 students already attend the Fort Erie schools. The Principal is collaborating with the one family impacted by this change to consider options for the two elementary students in Zone B including the option to either remain in Dewitt Carter PS or attend John Brant PS.

All future students that move into the area would be subject to the boundary change.

Niagara Student Transportation Services has advised that the proposed boundary change would have a positive impact on transportation by maximizing the number of students served by the same vehicle travelling to the same school. This has the potential to improve student ride times and decrease duplicate kilometre costs. In addition, it will decrease the appeals for out of boundary transportation by families who prefer to keep their children attending the same schools as their neighbours across the street.

Timeline

The boundary changes, if approved, can take effect on the day after Board approval.

Appended Data

Appendix A: Current Boundary Map
Appendix B: Boundary Change Map

Recommended Motion

“That the Board of Trustees approve the elementary boundary change to transfer the area shown as Zone A on Appendix B from Dewitt Carter PS to Stevensville PS; and,

Transfer the area shown as Zone B on Appendix B from Dewitt Carter PS to John Brant PS; and,

Transfer the areas shown as Zone A and B on Appendix B from Port Colborne HS to Greater Fort Erie SS; and,

That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and apply to all future students in Zones A and B. Existing Dewitt Carter PS students in Zone B, as described in this report, are grandfathered from the boundary changes and have the option to attend either elementary, and later secondary, school; and,

That the school boundaries be updated accordingly.”

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Veld, Superintendent of Business Services

May 4, 2021

Holloway Bay Road Current Boundaries

Legend

Elementary School Boundaries

- DeWitt Carter PS
- John Brant PS
- Stevensville PS

Secondary Boundaries

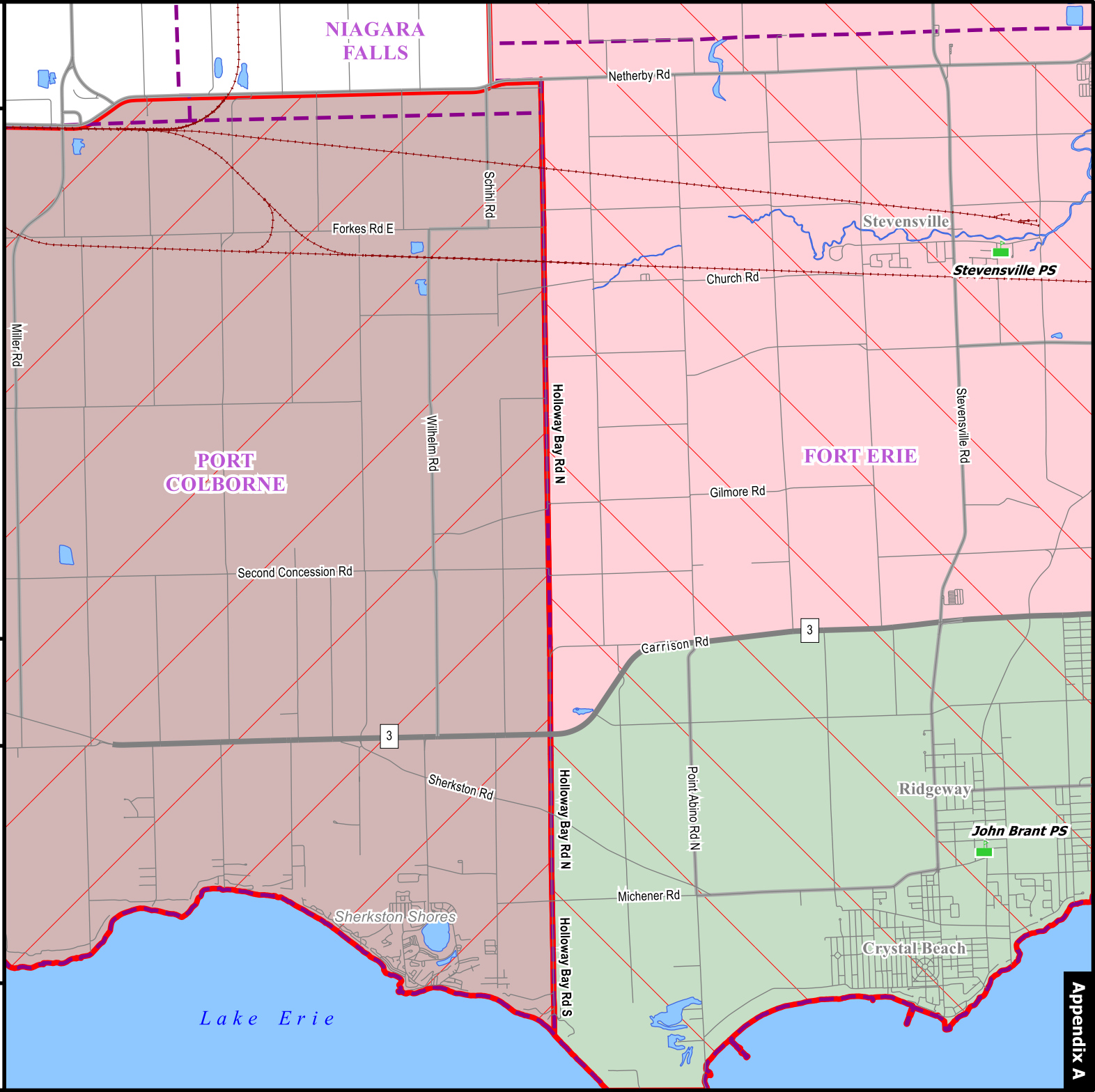
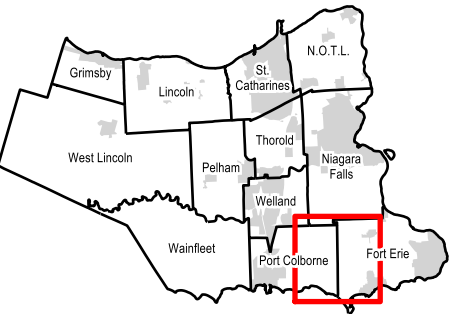
- Port Colborne HS (RT & SSTW)
- Greater Fort Erie SS (RT & SSTW)

- Elementary School
- Secondary School
- Municipal Boundaries

RT = Regular Track
SSTW = Specialized School-to-Work



0 2 km



Holloway Bay Road Boundary Revisions

Legend

Elementary School Boundaries
DeWitt Carter PS
John Brant PS
Stevensville PS

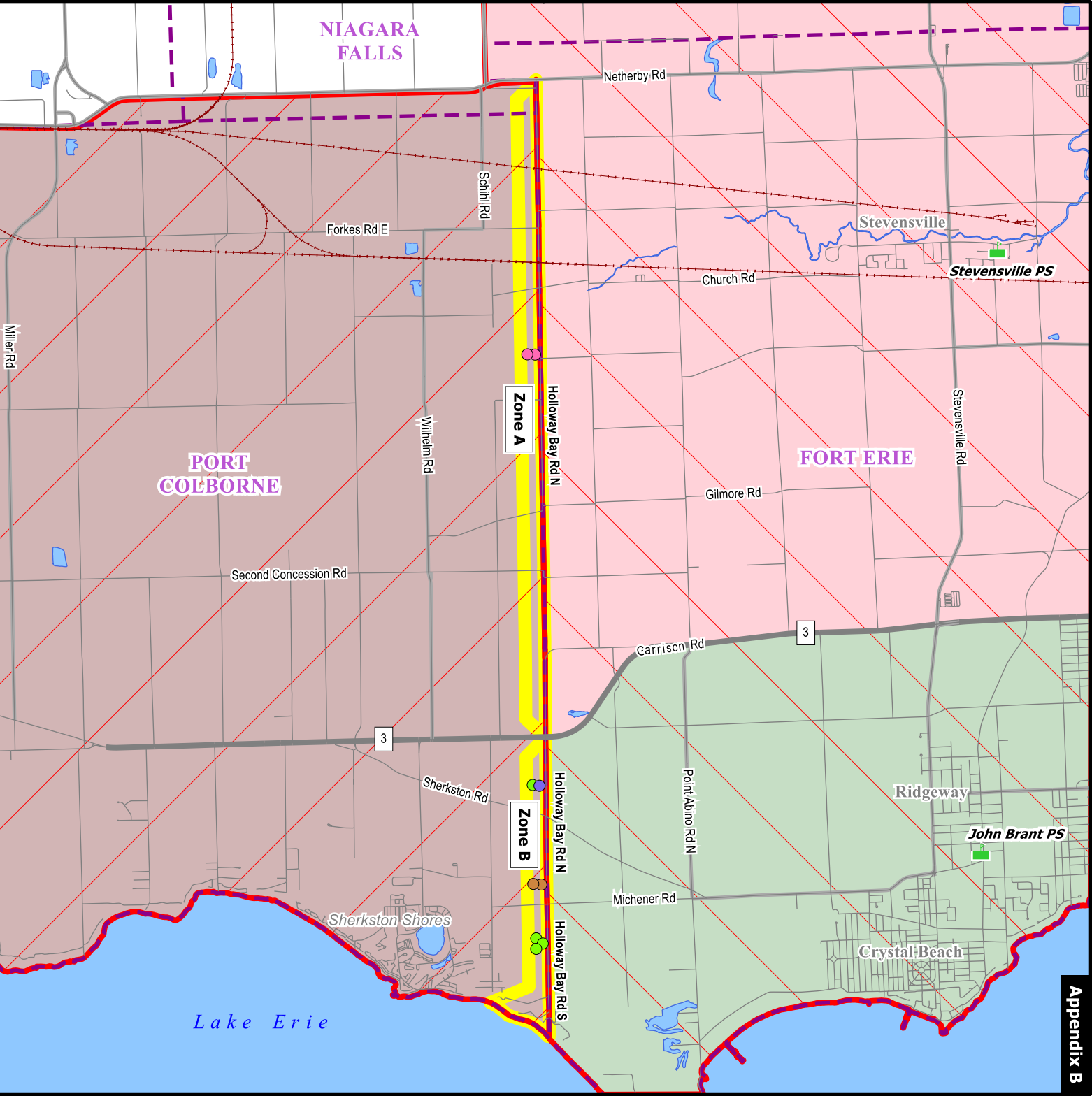
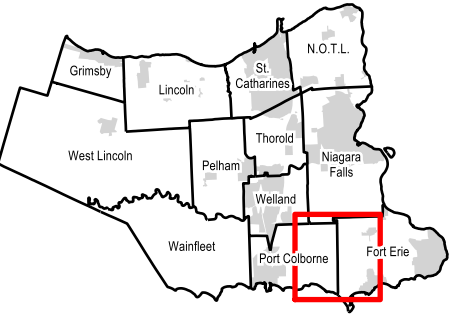
Secondary Boundaries
Port Colborne HS (RT & SSTW)
Greater Fort Erie SS (RT & SSTW)

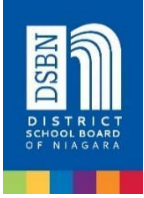
Transfer Zones

Students
DeWitt Carter PS
John Brant PS
Stevensville PS
Greater Fort Erie SS

Elementary School
Secondary School
Municipal Boundaries

RT = Regular Track
SSTW = Specialized School-to-Work





Program and Planning Meeting

Try A Trade Report

May 4, 2021

Background

The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) provides opportunities for students to explore and work in apprenticeship occupations, through the Cooperative Education program. Students can become OYAP participants at the end of grade 10, but the information and discussion of skilled trades begins much earlier. In the past, secondary schools through their Technological Education Departments have invited students to tour the school-based shops and receive information on skilled trades.

Try A Trade 2021

This school year, we had to look for a new way to reach students before they transitioned to secondary school. Our goal was to spark a conversation between students and their parents as they contemplated options for grade 9 and their future careers, therefore we created the Try A Trade experience. As part of this experience, students explored the opportunities that skilled trades and apprenticeship provide starting with Technological Education and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Wanting to keep the Try A Trade program based in hands-on learning, we developed the idea to provide kits that would allow students to discover some of the work that skilled trades people undertake while completing them at home.

Students could select from five different activities that related to skilled trades in Baking, Carpentry, Automotive Service, Instrumentation and Control and Electricity. Each kit contained an activity sheet and the necessary tools and materials to complete the activity. Students researched their chosen trade and answered questions about the trade and the pathways that are available in secondary school to start their journey.

Over 960 grade 7 & 8 students received kits. Bakers baked and decorated cakes and other pastries. Carpenters built a model cabin. Mechanics built an air power car and examined tire pressure and tread depth with the tools provided. Electricians designed circuits for wearable technology while Instrumentation and Control participants wrote computer programs to control motors, lights and buzzers.

In order to capture student and parent voice, a combination of surveys and interviews were conducted. We learned that through this experience, students felt they were more informed about skilled trades and were more likely to take Technology and or Cooperative Education courses in secondary school.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Mary Anne Gage, Superintendent of Education, Curriculum and Student Achievement



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
REPORT TO PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
May 2021
2020-2021 Music Monday

Background:

Each year the DSBN participates in Music Monday, the nationwide celebration of music education in Canada. In non-pandemic years, secondary students from across the DSBN would gather to celebrate and create music together as a whole at the Meridian Center for a full day event and elementary students may have participated in Music Monday experiences through school-based programming.

Last spring, secondary students and teachers from across the DSBN adjusted in the circumstances to celebrate the importance of music by creating a video collaboration. The virtual ensemble they created allowed them to share the healing nature and importance of music to help students through times such as these.

This Year:

With the launch and success of last year's video collaboration, we wanted to expand and celebrate the student journey through music education at the DSBN. This initiative took a lot of background work and collaboration from students and teachers across the DSBN in both elementary and secondary schools.

We started with the development of our own song. Laura Secord students in the DNA Arts Program wrote the lyrics and created the music for a song they have called "Music Lives Within Me". The song is about "the importance of music in our lives and the ability it has to bring us together." Thank you to the leadership of teachers: Katryna Sacco (Vocal Class), Bonnie Henderson (Instrumental) and Jay Knelson (Sound Recording and Mixing).

Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12, with the help of their teachers and parents recorded themselves performing the music and the recording was shared with the community yesterday. A special thank you goes to Mary Zwolak, Student Achievement Leader for the Arts in elementary and Kathaleen McNeil, Acting Arts Consultant for secondary for coordinating and creating this year's Music Monday opportunity for students.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marian Reimer Friesen, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (K – 8)

&

Helen McGregor, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (9-12)