



**THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA**

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

November 28, 2017

6:25 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Jennifer Ajandi, Sue Barnett, Helga Campbell, Lora Campbell, Diane Chase, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves (Vice Chair), Dale Robinson (Chair), Dave Schaubel

Student Trustees: Emily Hilborn and Amal Qayum

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Paula MacKinnon, Helen McGregor, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, JoAnna Roberto, Michael St. John, Stacy Veld, Jennifer Feren, Brett Sweeney, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Morgan

Regrets: Cheryl Morgan

Recording Secretary: Christina Dero

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair Robinson opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee people.

2. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Robinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Robinson welcomed guests who were in the gallery.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Helga Campbell

Seconded by Diane Chase

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole (Private Session).”

CARRIED

Moved by Sue Barnett

Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the Board reconvene at 6:50 p.m.”

CARRIED

The Board reconvened at 6:53 p.m.

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Diane Chase

“That the Board do now return to open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:58 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Harriet Tubman Public School choir, via video.

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in honour of a DSBN staff member who passed away recently.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Diane Chase

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued**2. Approval of Board Minutes**

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 24, 2017 be confirmed as submitted.”

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session)

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

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

CARRIED

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**1. Director’s Report and Recognition****Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective:****a) Recognition of Sonja Upton, Teacher, E.I. McCulley Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized teacher librarian Sonja Upton, for being an inspirational educator and for being a model of life-long learning for students at E.I. McCulley Public School.

Sonja puts time and energy into adding that “little bit more” for students at the school. She started a Coding Club in 2014, which has been going strong for three years. This Club, for students in grades 3-8, helps them develop problem solving skills, critical thinking, growth mindset and “grit.”

Another example of Sonja’s commitment is the mentorship she provided to a group of four girls who created a Healthy Living App using MIT App Inventor. They presented the app at the Connect Conference and took third place at the Toronto Regional Technovation Challenge.

As well, Sonja led the E.I. McCulley Jaguars to a second place finish for the “Indigo Love of Reading” grant and E.I. McCulley’s students were the

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Recognition of Sonja Upton, Teacher, E.I. McCulley Public School**

recipients of over 1,500 books from Indigo and First Book Canada. The students were delighted to be able to take these books home and add them to their personal libraries. Sonja successfully applied for TD grants two years in a row and worked with community organizations to create an outdoor classroom with stone seating, a pollinator garden and a community vegetable garden. All of the students in the school have been involved in the planning, planting and care of these spaces.

Director Hoshizaki presented Sonja Upton with a token of the Board's appreciation for her extraordinary contributions.

b) Recognition of Allison Toews-Peplinski and Cheryl Secord, Teachers, Quaker Road Public School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Quaker Road Public School teachers Allison Toews-Peplinski and Cheryl Secord who both have a passion for the environment and believe that we each have a responsibility to care for it and preserve its' natural beauty.

Several years ago, these teachers began the ECO and RECYLCE clubs at Quaker Road. They developed an all-encompassing plan to involve students in their learning about the environment, what steps they can take to protect and improve it and the idea that just 'one person' can and will make a difference.

They have initiated a compost system in each classroom and have a recycle team who collects the blue and grey boxes once a day from each class. The team performs audits, makes presentations at assemblies and organizes community walks. All of this has led Quaker Road Public School in being designated an ECO Green Platinum School. Quaker Road is one of three schools in the DSBN, and one of 118 in the entire province to receive such designation.

Director Hoshizaki presented Allison Toews-Peplinski and Cheryl Secord with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions.

b) Director's Update to Trustees**i. Ontario Special Olympics Educator of the Year**

Andy Dermatis, learning resource teacher at Harriet Tubman Public School, was recently named the Ontario Special Olympics Educator of the Year! Congratulations Andy!

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**ii. Prime Minister Trudeau Learns About Governor Simcoe Robotics**

This September the robotics team from Governor Simcoe Secondary School earned the opportunity to meet and discuss policy with Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau. Governor Simcoe and their robotics team known as “Team 1114 - Simbotics” was chosen as the sole high school representative from a group of over 200 FIRST Robotics Competition teams across Canada.

The team was selected for their consistent excellence in FIRST Robotics including a World Championship victory and being a member of the FIRST Hall of Fame. Two student representatives, Kate O’Melia (grade 12) and Evan Bernat (grade 11) along with their industry mentor, made the all-expenses paid trip to Ottawa for the event. While in Ottawa, they attended and spoke at a roundtable discussion to give their input on the state of Science and Technology in Canadian Education. Kate and Evan both spoke of the importance of supporting robotics programs in schools and used their own experiences on the teams to illustrate the impact of these types of programs. They also demonstrated their 2017 robot, Simbot Ali. The Prime Minister was completely engaged by the demonstration and was awestruck when Kate and Evan passed the controls to him.

iii. Halloween Math Fun at River View Public School

Students in Ms. Hann’s grade 5 class at River View Public School had a day of learning and fun when they were challenged to carve a pumpkin using only geometry clues - also known as the “Polygon Pumpkin Challenge!”

Once students finished their carvings they were able to open the “Top Secret File” to see if they accomplished their mission and carved the pumpkin correctly.

The carved pumpkins also added some great ambiance to their spooky narrative read aloud - where students had the opportunity to read aloud a spooky narrative they wrote.

iv. Westlane Secondary School – Corporate Sponsor Award Nomination

Recently, Westlane Secondary School partnered with the City of Niagara Falls, Project SHARE and Links for Greener Learning to develop an outdoor horticulture teaching centre, equipped with 40 accessible garden beds, 20 fruit trees, 2,000 wild flowers pollinator garden and a portable mobile kitchen. Westlane received the Corporate Sponsor Award by Park in the City Community regarding the project, which complements Westlane’s existing new 2,000 square foot greenhouse. This partnership was made possible through the hard work of students constructing the garden and the leadership of Westlane’s technology program leader, Tyler Graham, who was the liaison between the many groups involved.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**v. 2017 DSBN Monologue Competition**

Over the last two weeks, 16 DSBN senior secondary students participated in the 2017 DSBN Monologue Competition in collaboration with the Shaw Festival.

The monologue competition provides students with a unique opportunity to learn through a process that includes performance workshops and direct feedback from Shaw Festival ensemble actors and directors. The competition begins with DSBN secondary students presenting monologues of their choice to Shaw Festival company members. After receiving feedback, students return to the Shaw Festival the following week to present their monologues - for a second time - in a simulated audition environment coordinated by DSBN teachers and Shaw actors and directors.

Winners of the competition were:

- First: Rachel Binns - Grimsby Secondary School
- Second: Alex Sykes - E.L. Crossley Secondary School

Congratulations to all of the students who represented their schools at this year's competition.

vi. Celebrating the Stars!

On November 16, 2017, the Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC) hosted the 21st Annual Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence at the Holiday Inn, St. Catharines. Over 330 individuals attended the Oscar Themed Gala, "Celebrating the Stars of Niagara's Early Learning and Child Care Community."

Lori Bailey from the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre at Kate S. Durdan Public School received the Family Support Program Practitioner Award. This award recognizes a program facilitator who has made a significant contribution to the program while supporting the Four Foundations of How Does Learning Happen. Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years. Congratulations to several of the Child Care providers located within DSBN schools who were recognized for their outstanding contributions.

2. Educational Showcases

There were no educational showcases.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There were no student achievement reports.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS**1. ACCOUNTS**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott**

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1992 to 2006, for the month of September 2017 totalling \$22,465,343.14 be received.”

CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

**Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Diane Chase**

“That the report of Parent Involvement Committee dated November 28, 2017 be received.”

CARRIED

Superintendent Reimer Friesen presented a verbal report on the Parent Involvement Committee Conference, “Parenting Matters”, which was held on November 1, 2017 at Eden High School. Superintendent Reimer Friesen added that the Parent Involvement Committee would like to acknowledge and thank staff and students at Eden High School for the use of their facility, and for the many volunteers they provided to help make the event a success. The committee is also thankful for the financial support of the DSBN and Ministry of Education Parents Reaching Out Grants. Superintendent Reimer Friesen thanked the Parent Involvement Committee Members, and Co-Chairs Lisa Mooney & Chris Seabrook, for their excellent work in preparing and running the PIC conference.

3. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated November 7, 2017 be received.”

OLD BUSINESS – continued**REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

“That, effective November 29, 2017, the following District School Board of Niagara elementary and secondary school boundary transfers be approved:

Zone A, as shown on Appendix A:

- **From Richmond Street PS to Glynn A. Green PS for the regular track program,**
- **From Jeanne Sauvé PS to Gordon PS for the French Immersion program,**
- **From Connaught PS to Fitch Street PS for the English as a Second Language program;**
- **From Thorold SS to E.L. Crossley SS for the regular track program,**
- **From Sir Winston Churchill SS to Welland Centennial SS for the Extended French program,**
- **From St. Catharines Collegiate to Welland Centennial SS for the English as a Second Language program, and**
- **From St. Catharines Collegiate to Eastdale SS for the Specialized School to Work program;**

Zone B, as shown on Appendix A:

- **From Quaker Road PS to Glynn A. Green PS; and,**

That the current junior kindergarten student at Quaker Road PS be grandfathered and have the option to attend either school with transportation.”

And

“That, effective February 5, 2018, the following District School Board of Niagara secondary school boundary transfers be approved:

Zones B and D, as shown on Appendix A and B, be transferred from Eastdale SS to Welland Centennial SS;

and,

That current Eastdale SS students in this boundary be grandfathered and have the option to attend either school with transportation.”

And

“That the Board request the Niagara Catholic District School Board to support a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools (Winger, William E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet.

and

If Niagara Catholic District School Board supports a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools (Winger, William E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet, then and only then Senior Administration are directed to prepare an Initial Staff Report and School Information Profile

OLD BUSINESS – continued**REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Reports for William E. Brown PS and Winger PS for presentation to the Board of Trustees; otherwise, the Wainfleet elementary accommodation review process will not move forward.”

CARRIED

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the Program and Planning Committee report, which included a number of boundary changes.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent Veld explained that the programming changes at St. Catharines Collegiate Secondary School would not result in lowered enrollment at the school.

Trustee Schaubel noted that the December 12, 2017 Program and Planning Committee meeting has been cancelled.

4. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi

Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the verbal report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated November 9, 2017 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Ajandi provided a summary of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting that included a moving Student Voice presentation and a report from Superintendent Dickson regarding ONSIS data.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent Dickson explained that each DSBN school has a resource teacher available to provide support to elementary and secondary students, as well as a resource room for students to access when needed.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent Dickson clarified that while the PowerPoint presentation included in the Board package shows that 65% of special education students are classified as non-identified, DSBN uses IEPs to ensure that these students are getting the supports that they need.

5. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

Moved by Emily Hilborn

Seconded by Amal Qayum

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated November 14, 2017 be received.”

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS – continued**REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

Student Trustee Qayum reported that the Education Foundation of Niagara was invited to speak to the Senators about supports that they provide to DSBN students. Senators will be working with EFN to develop fundraising ideas.

Student Trustee Hilborn added that Senators shared highlights of their school Mental Health Fairs, and noted that because of these events, students are more aware of resources that are available in their schools.

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

**Moved by Lora Campbell
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated November 15, 2017 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Lora Campbell reported that the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee reviewed a total 10 cases at the November 15, 2017 meeting, 2 of which were connected to the Routes Program.

7. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 15, 2017 be received.” and

“That the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus for the year ended August 31, 2017, be approved.” and

“That the Annual Report on Board Investments, as at August 31, 2017, be received.” and

“That Borrowing Resolution 2017-03, authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$41,150,118 for the short-term financing of Ministry funded capital projects, pursuant to the provisions of section 243(1) of the Education Act, be approved.”

CARRIED

Vice Chair Maves provided a summary of the Finance Committee meeting, which included a review of the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus, the Annual Report on Board Investments, and a borrowing resolution.

OLD BUSINESS – continued**8. REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the report of the Audit Committee dated November 20, 2017 be received.” and

“That the 2016-17 Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Ministry of Education be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustee Fast reported that during the November 20, 2017 meeting, the Audit Committee reviewed the Regional Internal Audit Update. Trustee Fast added that many of the areas that were addressed in regard to Technology Security Network Penetration Testing have already been addressed.

9. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Helga Campbell

“That the report of the Policy Committee dated November 21, 2017 be received.”

“That Policy A-11: Flag Protocol be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-05: Home Schooling be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-12: Home Use of Equipment Purchased Through the Special Equipment Amount (SEA) be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-13: Applied Behaviour Analysis be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy G-39: Human Rights Discrimination and Harassment or Occupational Health and Safety Workplace Harassment replace policy E-02: Sexual Harassment and policy E-09: Human Rights and be approved as received and adopted.”

“That Policy E-03: Health and Safety be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy E-04: Infectious and Communicable Diseases be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That policy E-15: Workplace Violent and Harassment Prevention be approved as amended and adopted.”

OLD BUSINESS – continued**REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE**

“That Policy G-30: Head Lice (Pediculosis) be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy I-04: Teacher Exchange – Within the District School Board of Niagara be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy E-19: Teacher Termination Resulting From Unsatisfactory Performance Appraisal Process be approved as amended and adopted.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott provided a brief summary of the Policy Committee meeting that was held on November 21, 2017 and added that all of the policies that were reviewed are outlined in the Board package.

Trustee Keddy Scott advised Trustees that the next Policy Committee meeting will be held on February 13, 2018, and policies scheduled for review will be accessible on the DSBN website from November 29, 2017 to January 23, 2018.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions asked of or by Board members.

L. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**1. Staff Reports**

There were no staff reports.

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee information session.

3. Correspondence and Communication**a) Correspondence from Peel DSB**

Correspondence from Peel District School Board can be found in the Board package.

b) Correspondence from Waterloo Region DSB

Correspondence from Waterloo Region District School Board can be found in the Board package.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**Correspondence and Communication****c) Correspondence from Waterloo Region DSB**

Correspondence from Waterloo Region District School Board can be found in the Board package.

d) Correspondence from Grand Erie DSB

Correspondence from Grand Erie District School Board can be found in the Board package.

Discussions took place around whether Trustees were in favour of writing a letter to the Ministry of Education to show support of suspending EQAO testing until the Ministry review is complete.

In response to questions from a Trustee, Superintendents explained some of the accommodations that are available to students during EQAO testing and throughout the school year.

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

“That the Board write a letter to the Ontario Ministry of Education expressing the Board’s concerns related to EQAO assessments and to request the Ontario Ministry of Education pause EQAO testing for the 2017-2018 school year.”

CARRIED

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- a) Trustee Barnett reported that the Welland Centennial Cheer Team is holding a “Date Night” fundraiser on December 8, 2017, from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.
- b) Trustee Barnett reported that Education Foundation of Niagara and Brock Leaders Citizenship Society will host a Denim, Diamonds, and Diplomas fundraiser on February 3, 2018 in support of DSBN Academy bursaries.
- c) Trustee Barnett reported that Education Foundation of Niagara raised over \$3,000 through ticket sales for the Behind Closed Doors fundraiser at the Pen Centre.
- d) Trustee Barnett reported that Education Foundation of Niagara raised over \$18,000 for poverty relief at the Beat the Brainiacs Trivia night.
- e) Trustee Barnett reported that DSBN staff donated \$460 to Education Foundation of Niagara during the November 17, 2017 PA day.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- f) Trustee Keddy Scott reported attending the Grimsby Secondary School Honour Roll Breakfast where Superintendent McGregor was a guest speaker.
- g) Trustee Keddy Scott reported attending a Remembrance Day ceremony where almost 900 students were in attendance.
- h) Trustee Keddy Scott provided a reminder of Beamsville District Secondary School's annual Turkey Dinner on December 8, 2017.
- i) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that Twenty Valley Public School will hold a Christmas concert on December 13, 2017.
- j) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that the Twenty Valley Public School Choir will sing at an upcoming Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 16, 2017.
- k) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending the Westlane Secondary School Honour Roll Banquet.
- l) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending Memories and Milestones, an event that recognizes retiring DSBN staff and staff members with 25 years of service. Trustee Helga Campbell commended Superintendent Courtois and Elaine Epp, Human Resources Assistant, for an outstanding event.
- m) Trustee Crouch reported attending a Remembrance Day ceremony in Port Dalhousie.
- n) Trustee Fast reported attending a moving Remembrance Day ceremony at Crossroads Public School.
- o) Chair Robinson reported attending the Thorold Secondary School Honour Roll Banquet.
- p) Chair Robinson reported attending the Niagara Economics Summit where Dino Miele, DSBN Chief Information Officer, spoke to what DSBN is doing in schools, and how that reflects back to the business community.
- q) Chair Robinson advised Trustees of a program that is available through Healthy Living Niagara that works to provide recommendations to municipalities to support students being active and walking to school.

Information on events and news happening within the Board can be found at www.dsbni.org and/or on the schools' websites.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**5. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report**

Trustee Chase advised that she will attend the OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting on December 1-2, 2017.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at www.opsba.org.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of December 2017 meetings was provided.

Chair Robinson noted that in accordance with Board By-laws the December Board Meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2017. The Organization Meeting of the Board will start at 6:00 p.m., followed by Committee of the Whole at 6:45 p.m., and then the Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The order of business for the Organization Meeting is to elect the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. In accordance with By-law F-6.1, the nomination period for the position of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson is from December 1 until 12:00 noon on the day of the Organization Meeting (December 5). Nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Board.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent Reimer Friesen clarified that the Parent Involvement Committee meeting on December 6, 2017, will be held at Wellington Heights Public School.

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Emily Hilborn
Seconded by Amal Qayum**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

DALE ROBINSON, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary