



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

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**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**February 27, 2018**

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board:** Jennifer Ajandi, Sue Barnett, Helga Campbell, Lora Campbell, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Kevin Maves (Vice Chair), Dale Robinson (Chair)

**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:** Trustee Diane Chase, Trustee Keddy Scott, Trustee Dave Schaubel

**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.

**COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued**

**Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent**

Chair Robinson welcomed guests who were in the gallery.

Chair Robinson noted the absence of Trustee Chase, Trustee Keddy Scott, and Trustee Schaubel.

**3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)**

Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Sue Barnett

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

**CARRIED**

Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:33 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Beamsville District Secondary School choir, via video.

**D. REFLECTIVE READING**

Student Trustee Qayum opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Helga Campbell

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated January 23, 2018 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 Andrew Hendriks & Sons Greenhouses, Community Partner**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Hendriks Greenhouses for being an invaluable community partner of the District School Board of Niagara and in particular, Beamsville District Secondary School (BDSS).

For over 10 years, Hendriks has been integrating students from BDSS’s Specialized School to Community (SSTC) Co-op Program into their production community. Approximately six years ago, BDSS’s co-op program expanded and the team doubled in size. Luckily, Hendriks had two different locations that they offered to students. One group went to Freeman Herbs for work experience and the other remained at Hendriks Greenhouses.

In addition, many of the students have acquired part-time employment at both

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Recognition of Andrew Hendriks & Sons Greenhouses, Community Partner**

locations. Hendriks Greenhouses and Freeman Herbs are both welcoming and accommodating establishments. They offer a plethora of learning opportunities for the students we support. Skills acquired over the course of a semester include WHMIS training and hazard recognition, resume building, positive workplace conduct training, and workplace health and safety training. Students have demonstrated their comprehension in these areas through interactive activities, role play, hands-on learning and discussion.

Both greenhouses have gone above and beyond to provide an incredibly inclusive environment with opportunity for success. Because of these two greenhouses, over 220 students enrolled in BDSS's SSTC program have gained confidence, growth, purpose, and an everlasting set of life skills, particularly those pertaining to the world of work.

Director Hoshizaki presented representatives from Hendriks Greenhouses with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions.

**b) Director's Update to Trustees****i. Designated Survivor**

The 'Designated Survivor' TV series starring Kiefer Sutherland has selected Governor Simcoe Secondary School's large robot and 2 smaller robots to use in one of their upcoming shows. In addition, two students will appear on screen during the episode.

**ii. DSBN Makers**

On February 22, 2018, the DSBN Makers program hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Lego Robotics Challenge for students in grades 4 through 8.

500 students and teachers met at Brock University to complete the four exciting challenges centered on a Winter Carnival theme.

**iii. Off the Wall Art Show**

This year 136 visual arts students in grades 9-11 submitted artwork to the annual DSBN Off The Wall Art Show.

40 DSBN secondary students were invited to participate in organizing, hanging, and curating the entire show. Students began the day by meeting community artists who invited and encouraged the students to think about art beyond the classroom. Students were thrilled by the prospects of being able to exhibit their work in community settings.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Director’s Update to Trustees****Off the Wall Art Show**

The Off The Wall art show opened on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, and was entirely arranged by students.

**iv. Grey Cup at Governor Simcoe Secondary School**

Congratulations to Governor Simcoe Secondary School alumnus Lirim Hajrullahu on his Grey Cup win with the Toronto Argonauts!

The Canadian kicker appeared as a guest speaker at Governor Simcoe Secondary School on February 22, 2018, and graciously shared the cup with students and staff.

**v. Bill 193, Rowan’s Law**

On February 26, 2018, Director Hoshizaki appeared before the Legislative Assembly to make a presentation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy regarding Bill 193, an Act to enact Rowan’s Law (Concussion Safety). The Bill went through second reading on February 21, 2018, and a public hearing was held on February 26, 2018.

Director Hoshizaki represented the DSBN, and the views of Public Directors of Education across Ontario, voicing full support of Bill 193. Director Hoshizaki added that he is confident that the recommendations and resources in Rowan’s Law will help protect the health and safety of students.

**2. Educational Showcases****a) Grapeview Public School – Student Voice**

Superintendent Reimer Friesen introduced the showcase, which highlighted Grapeview Public School’s initiative, “Choose Kind.” Superintendent Reimer Friesen explained that the initiative brings DSBN’s Strategic Plan to life, and added that their unique approach to looking at climate survey data and enhancing student voice has been highly impactful.

Grapeview Public School Principal, Shelley Fehrman, introduced teacher, Zakia Hamdani, and students, Isabella Derksen, Yolanta Clark, Keira Scott, Madelyn Digweed, and Taylor Masterson.

Zakia Hamdani and the Grapeview students explained the process that the students and staff took to create the initiative, and described the positive impact that creating a culture of kindness has had at the school.

A video was shown that highlighted some of the activities that were chosen as part of the kindness initiative.

## **G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**

### **1. Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA)**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Helga Campbell**

**“That the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) 2017-18 Mid-Year Update Report be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Roberto introduced the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) 2017/18 Mid-Year Update and explained that the mid-year overview is a summary of the DSBN’s actions and progress to date.

Superintendent Roberto and Superintendent McGregor highlighted the strategies and initiatives that are contributing to the successes seen in both elementary and secondary schools across the DSBN, and shared examples of student achievements.

Superintendent Roberto explained that the BIPSA has been organized into the seven categories seen in the handout. Superintendents shared examples from each category, including data-based decision making, math and literacy focus, achievement, student voice, mental health & wellbeing, collaborative instructional leadership, and career & life planning.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent MacKinnon explained that this is the first year that DSBN received a grant which help students pay for post-secondary applications, and it is not clear if it will be offered again next year.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent MacKinnon clarified that DSBN has had an on-going partnership with the Canadian Armed Forces, and added that a representative from the Canadian Armed Forces Aboriginal Training Program met with interested Indigenous students to share summer and post-secondary opportunities.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Director Hoshizaki explained that supports are put in place to teach the curriculum, not just for EQAO testing.

## **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 Kevin Maves**

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 2054 to 2067, for the month of January, 2018 totalling \$17,593,699.74 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. 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 January 18, 2018, and February 7, 2018 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Lora Campbell reported that the Supervised Alternative Committee reviewed 6 cases during January 18, 2018 meeting, and 5 cases during the February 7, 2018 meeting.

**3. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi**

**“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated February 6, 2018 be received.”**

**“That the report of the Educational Research Committee of November 16, 2017 be received.”**

**“That the report of the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars - 2018- 2019 be received and approved for submission to the Ministry of Education by May 1, 2018.”**

**“That the Board receive the Secondary School Program Review for the Current School Year 2017-18.”**

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

**“That the Board receive the Secondary School Program Review for the Subsequent School Year 2018-19.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Roberto provided a summary of the Program and Planning Committee report.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent McGregor explained that the program cancellations referred to in the report are due to insufficient student requests.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent McGregor clarified that the majority of combined classes tend to be elective programs and programs that are offered at smaller schools. Superintendent McGregor added that Greater Fort Erie Secondary School has been able to offer 19 additional courses this year compared to the offerings at Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School and Fort Erie Secondary School in the prior year.

**4. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Helga Campbell  
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

**“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated February 7, 2018 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Lora Campbell provided a summary of the Parent Involvement Committee meeting, which included a tour of a kindergarten classroom, discussions around the PIC Conference, and planning for an annual School Council Chair networking session which will be held at Grapeview Public School.

**5. REPORT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Jennifer Ajandi  
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

**“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated February 8, 2018 be received.”**

**CARRIED**



**OLD BUSINESS – continued****REPORT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Ajandi provided a summary of the Special Education Advisory Committee Report, which included an inspirational message from an Eden High School student and presentations from DSNB staff around central supports and the process of transitioning students into kindergarten.

**6. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

**“That the report of the Policy Committee dated February 13, 2018 be received.”**

**“That Policy A-01: Student Trustees On Boards be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy G-11: Assault/Threatening Incidents Involving Students be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy G-15: Student Medical Forms be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy G-26: Use of Mobile Devices By Students be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy A-19: Accessibility Standards – Policy Statement be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy E-12: Workplace Wellness be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy E-18: Accessibility Standards be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That policy G-34: Accessibility Standards For Information and Communication be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**“That Policy J-02: Accessibility Standards for School Transportation be approved as amended and adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Pisek provided a summary of the Policy Committee report, and added that the next set of policies will be open for vetting from February 28 -April 25 2018.

**OLD BUSINESS – continued****7. REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

Moved by Emily Hilborn  
Seconded by Amal Qayum

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated February 21, 2018 be received.”

**CARRIED**

Student Trustee Hilborn reported that during the February 21, 2018 meeting, the Student Trustee Senate participated in workshops and gave feedback on post-secondary workshops.

Student Trustee Qayum added that Senators were asked to reflect on the progress of the group so far this year.

**K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no questions asked of or by Board members.

**L. NEW BUSINESS****1. Appointment of Ad Hoc Governance Committee**

Chair Robinson requested that Trustees email her if they are interested in sitting on the Ad Hoc Governance Committee.

**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 Niagara Catholic District School Board**

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

Student Trustees Hilborn and Qayum provided an overview of the Students Trustees Association Student Platform Report.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued****Correspondence from Niagara Catholic District School Board**

Moved by Amal Qayum

Seconded by Emily Hilborn

**“That the District School Board of Niagara endorse the Ontario Students Trustees Association Student Platform Report and that the District School Board of Niagara communicate the endorsement to the Minister of Education and all Boards across the Province.”**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- a) Trustee Barnett reported that the Welland Centennial Cheerleading Squad captured the provincial title.
- b) Trustee Barnett reported that Education Foundation of Niagara is raising funds for the Make Change for Children Campaign.
- c) Trustee Ajandi reported that she recently had the opportunity adjudicate speeches at Woodland public school.
- d) Trustee Ajandi reported that she will be attending an Autism Ontario Trivia Night fundraiser.

Information on events and news happening within the Board can be found at [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org) and/or on the schools' websites.

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

There was no Ontario Public School Boards' Association report.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at [www.opsba.org](http://www.opsba.org).

**6. Future Meetings**

The calendar of March 2018 meetings was provided.

The Program and Planning meeting will be held on March 22, 2018.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

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**DALE ROBINSON**, Chair

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**WARREN HOSHIZAKI**, Director of Education  
and Secretary