

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 6:20 p.m. | Public Session: 7:00 p.m. – 7:36p.m. (Virtual Meetings)

ATTENDANCE

BOARD

Kate Baggott, Alex Bradnam (Vice Chair), Sue Barnett (Chair), Nancy Beamer, Lora Campbell, Jonathan Fast, Elizabeth Klassen, Kevin Maves, Shannon Mitchell, Doug Newton, Dave Schaubel

STUDENT TRUSTEES

Salony Sharma, Karina Tavernese

OFFICIALS

Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, John Dickson, Mary Anne Gage, Helen McGregor, Simon Hancox, Marian Reimer Friesen, Kelly Pisek, Leanne Smith, Michael St. John, Stacy Veld, Jennifer Feren, Kim Sweeney, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Morgan

REGRETS

Student Trustee Keelee Hollowell

RECORDING SECRETARY

Christina Dero

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Wendy Coit, Kara Hiott-Bowles

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Barnett opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – CONTINUED

2. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT

Chair Barnett called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Barnett noted the absence of Student Trustee Hollowell.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole.”

CARRIED

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“That the Board return to Open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:20 p.m.

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’

“The Board stood as ‘*O Canada*’ was performed by the Stevensville Public School choir, via video.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Baggott shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated February 23, 2021 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 Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

“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

a) Austin Dill, Student, Stamford Collegiate Secondary School

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Austin Dill for taking his musical interests to new heights by writing and recording some songs for worthy causes. Stamford Collegiate Secondary School and the DSBN are incredibly proud of Austin’s kind, generous nature and look forward to hearing more from this young artist.

2. Educational Showcases

a) DSBN Technological Skills Challenge

Superintendent Smith introduced the showcase which highlighted the 23rd Annual DSBN Technological Skills Challenge. Over 160 students took part in the challenge this year, which took place from March 1 – March 12, 2021. This year, because of COVID restrictions, students participated in challenges in their home school. Superintendent Smith commended Jill Russell and Roy Smith who were instrumental in organizing the event.

Superintendent Smith shared a video of students participating in challenges.

b) Parent Involvement Committee Virtual Speaker Series

Superintendent Hancox spoke to the Parent Involvement Committee Virtual Speaker Series. This year, due to the inability to gather, the Parent Involvement Committee made the decision to host a series of speakers to keep parents engaged during these complex times. Superintendent Hancox noted that there has been significant engagement in the speaker series and positive feedback.

Superintendent Hancox shared a video with clips from each session.

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. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

Moved by Kevin Maves

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated February 24, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Campbell reported that the committee reviewed and approved 2 cases during the February 24, 2021 Supervised Alternative Learning Committee meeting. Following the case presentations, the Committee reviewed the progress of current students participating in the SAL program.

2. Report of the Program and Planning Committee

Moved by Doug Newton

Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated March 9, 2021 be received.”

“That the West Niagara Secondary School (WNSS) Update be received.”

“That the New Elementary Math Curriculum Report be received.”

“That DSBN receive the De-streaming Grade 9 in DSBN Report and DSBN supports the implementation of de-streamed English curriculum in all secondary schools starting in September 2021 and DSBN support the implementation of de-streamed Geography, French and Science curriculum in all secondary schools starting in September 2022.”

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Report of the Program and Planning Committee

“That the Additional Qualification Report be received.”

“That the Educational Research Committee Report be received, and the research approved.”

CARRIED

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the Program and Planning Committee meeting, which included presentations about the new West Niagara Secondary School and de-streaming DSBN’s Grade 9 English curriculum in secondary schools. The committee also received the Additional Qualification Report and the Educational Research Committee Report.

3. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Kate Baggott

Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated March 11, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell provided a summary of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which included a student voice presentation via video, a presentation of DSBN ON SIS information reported to the Ministry of Education, and a presentation of information on placement of students with special education needs.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Baggott requested an update about the containment of COVID outbreaks in schools and about asymptomatic COVID testing in schools. Director Hoshizaki explained that approximately 40 people participated in testing at St. Catharines Collegiate and roughly 140 people participated in testing at Welland Centennial Secondary School. Director Hoshizaki added that when cases rise in the community, they also rise in schools.

L. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. STAFF REPORTS

There were no staff reports.

2. TRUSTEE INFORMATION SESSION

Chair Barnett reported that Trustees took part in a profession development session regarding equity and inclusion across the DSBN. Two additional sessions have been planned.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

There was no correspondence or communication.

4. TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

There was no trustee communications or school liaison.

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

Trustee Baggott spoke to OPSBA's statement on the Province of Manitoba's decision to abolish school board trustees. Trustee Baggott urged trustees to look at the conditions around making those decisions so if this happens in Ontario, then trustees will be prepared to look at their positions objectively.

Chair Barnett noted that the OPSBA Speaker Series scheduled on March 25, 2021 has been postponed to a later date.

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of April 2021 meetings was provided.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021



N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Lora Campbell

That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on March 23, 2021 be now ratified by the Board.”

“That the Chair and proper officials of the District School Board of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the business as decided by the Board of Trustees this day.”

CARRIED

O. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

SUE BARNETT
Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI
Director of Education and Secretary