

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 6:42 p.m. | Public Session: 7:00 p.m. – 8:02p.m. (Virtual Meetings)

ATTENDANCE

BOARD

Alex Bradnam (Vice Chair), Sue Barnett (Chair), Nancy Beamer, 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

Kate Baggott, Lora Campbell, Keelee Hollowell

RECORDING SECRETARY

Christina Dero

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Wendy Coit, Darlene Duncan, Sarah Skrydstrup

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 Trustee Baggott, Trustee Campbell, and 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 Nancy Beamer
Seconded by Alex Bradnam

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

CARRIED

Moved by Nancy Beamer
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the Board return to Open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:42 p.m.

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’

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

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Vice Chair Bradnam shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated April 27, 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 Doug Newton
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“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) Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions - Aliya Aragon, Student, DSBN Academy

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Aliya Aragon for her outstanding commitment to academic achievement and for being an influential leader in the school community.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – CONTINUED

b) Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions - Lauren Fleming, Student, Laura Secord Secondary School

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Lauren Fleming for her advocacy and volunteer work as well as the positive impact that she has had on others.

2. Educational Showcases

a) Faces of DSBN

Director Hoshizaki explained that DSBN’s Equity & Inclusion Team collaborated with the Student Trustee Senate and the Communications and Information Technology Departments on the Faces of DSBN initiative that launched in March 2021.

Faces of DSBN is a campaign showcasing high school students’ contributions to making their schools and communities better. Students were asked to share personal stories of activism, building awareness, acts of kindness and/or promoting change.

Director Hoshizaki shared a video of students sharing some of the contributions they have made in their communities.

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 Program and Planning Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Doug Newton

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated May 4, 2021 be received.”

“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 Zone 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.”

“That the Try A Trade Report be received.”

“That the Music Monday Report be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the Program and Planning Committee meeting, which included a presentation of the proposed boundary changes, as well as presentations about “Try A Trade” and DSBN’s virtual Music Monday project.

2. Report of the Parent Involvement Committee

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated May 5, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Report of the Parent Involvement Committee

Trustee Beamer reported that the Parent Involvement Committee offered on-demand presentations for parents during Education Week. Trustee Beamer added that the PIC Virtual Speaker Series will conclude on May 26, 2021, with Dr. Ungar presenting, “How to Make Our Kids More Resilient”.

Trustee Beamer provided a summary of the Parent Involvement Committee meeting, which included a presentation explaining DSBNs Grade 9 De-Streaming planned for September 2021 and discussions about the survey that was sent out to all participants about the Virtual Speakers Series this year. The Virtual Speakers Series will re-start in September 2021, with hopes of holding in-person sessions at some point of the year.

3. Report of the Policy Committee

Moved by Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the report of the Policy Committee dated May 11, 2021 be received.”

“That Policy F-05: Playspace Equipment and Naturalized Learning and Play Spaces be approved as received and adopted.”

“That Policy G-10: Use of Identification Badges by Non-School Staff and Non-School Board Personnel be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-07: Third Party Provision of Student Support Services be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy G-06: Fireworks, Firecrackers, Pyrotechnical be revoked.”

“That Policy A-09: Naming/Renaming of Schools be deferred to a June policy meeting.”

“That Policy D-14: Assessment and Evaluation and Reporting be approved as received and adopted.”

“That Policy E-20: DSBN Employee Hiring Practices be approved as amended and adopted.”

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Report of the Policy Committee

Vice Chair Bradnam provided a summary of the Policy Committee meeting, where 6 existing policies and 1 new policy were reviewed. Vice Chair Bradnam highlighted some of the changes made to the policies and noted that the committee requested more time for discussion and time for revisions to be made to Policy A-09: Naming/Renaming of Schools. The next set of policies to be reviewed will be open for vetting from September 10, 2021 – November 3, 2021.

4. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Elizabeth Klassen

Seconded by Kevin Maves

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated May 13, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell spoke to the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which included a Student Voice Presentation and a presentation from Superintendent St. John about a Special Education Grant and an update on the work of the Preschool Transition Team. Trustee Mitchell added that DSBN Special Olympics are in the planning stages and will be offered remotely again this year.

5. Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Moved by Salony Sharma

Seconded by Karina Tavernese

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated May 18, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustee Sharma reported that a design by Eden High School student, Rachel DeBoer was chosen as the new Senate logo as it encapsulates and reflects the work of the Senate. Student Trustee Sharma added that the Students Helping Students Fundraiser started earlier this month, and proceeds will be directed back to DSBN schools.

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Student Trustee Tavernese reported that Kya Steinbach-Parker from Greater Fort Erie Secondary School has been appointed Indigenous Student Trustee for the upcoming school year.

6. Report of the Finance Committee

Moved by Doug Newton

Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated May 19, 2021 be received.”

“That the Board provide five (5) paid holy days as part of creed observation and accommodation per calendar year for permanent non-union and union employees and LTO’s where their Collective Agreements or Terms and Conditions of Employment do not currently specify, to further promote consistency and equity.”

“That the Capital Projects Borrowing Resolution 2021-01 authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$13,041,225 for the short-term financing of funded COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) capital funding, pursuant to the provisions of section 243(1) of the Education Act, be approved.”

“That the Multi-Year Capital Plan be received, and staff be authorized to proceed with all identified projects up to and including the 2021-22 year, subject to confirmation of necessary Ministry of Education approvals.”

“That the 2021-22 Preliminary Revenue Budget be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves provided a summary of the Finance Committee meeting, which included a presentation of the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) capital funding, the Multi-Year Capital Plan, and the 2021-22 Preliminary Revenue Budget. Trustee Maves urged all trustees to attend the upcoming Finance Committee meeting in June.

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

7. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Doug Newton

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated May 19, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Superintendent Smith provided a summary of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee meeting, where two new cases were reviewed and approved. Following the case presentations, the committee reviewed the progress of current students participating in the SAL program.

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

An information session about Equity and Inclusion took place prior to the Board meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

There were no correspondence or communication.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – CONTINUED

4. TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

- a) Chair Barnett reminded trustees to purchase Portabackyarda tickets in support of the Education Foundation of Niagara.

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

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of June 2021 meetings was provided.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on May 25, 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 Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

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

CARRIED

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021



ADJOURNMENT – CONTINUED

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

SUE BARNETT
Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI
Director of Education and Secretary