

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 6:37 p.m. | Public Session: 7:00 p.m. – 8:15p.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

Keelee Hollowell, 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

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.

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 that there were no members absent.

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 Kate Baggott
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

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

CARRIED

Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“That the Board return to Open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:37 p.m.

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’

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

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Newton shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Doug Newton

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – CONTINUED

Adoption of the Agenda

“That the Agenda be adopted as amended.”

CARRIED

Chair Barnett requested that the agenda be amended to include additional correspondence received after the Board package was prepared.

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Kate Baggott

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the Minutes of the Organization Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 1, 2020 be confirmed as submitted.”

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 1, 2020 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 Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Kate Baggott

“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) Andrew White, Teacher/Program Leader, Eden High School

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Andrew White for being a mentor to educators, for always taking the time to share resources and new knowledge, and for kindly working with new teachers and student teachers to share his teaching philosophy.

2. Educational Showcases

b) DSBN Social Summary Initiative

Director Hoshizaki introduced a new initiative called the DSBN Social Summary, that was created by DSBN's Communications Department staff to share what is happening in social media across the DSBN.

Director Hoshizaki shared a video that highlighted how the DSBN Social Summary increases communication and showcases the work of DSBN students and staff.

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 Doug Newton
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

OLD BUSINESS

Accounts

“That the Summary of Accounts paid for the months of November and December 2020, totaling \$35,566,166.19 be received.”

CARRIED

2. Report of the Parent Involvement Committee

Moved by Nancy Beamer

Seconded by Doug Newton

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated December 2, 2020 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Newton reported that Anne Murray presented on December 9, 2020 as part of the Parent Involvement Committee Speaker Series. Ann Douglas will present at the next event which will take place on January 27, 2021.

Trustee Newton provided a summary of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) meeting which included a presentation of the Equity and Inclusion Framework for DSBN and discussions about future speakers.

3. Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Moved by Keelee Hollowell

Seconded by Karina Tavernese

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated December 8, 2020 be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustee Hollowell reported that Student Senators received a presentation that gave them a better understanding of the Student Resource Officer Program. Student Trustee Hollowell added that the first Indigenous Student Leadership Council meeting was held in November.

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Student Trustee Tavernese shared that the Senate Instagram account is doing well and a sub-committee has been formed to assist with posts.

Student Trustee Sharma spoke about the Student Trustee Senate logo contest that is currently taking place.

4. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated December 10, 2020 be received.”

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated January 14, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell provided a summary of the December 2020 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which included a Student Voice presentation via video, information about funding that DSBN has received to support students, a presentation about DSBN integration strategy, and an update on the preschool transition process.

Vice Chair Bradnam provided a summary of the January 2021 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which included a Student Voice presentation via video, a presentation of the range of specialized supports that are available to students with special learning needs, and a presentation about professional development opportunities for staff.

5. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated December 16, 2020 be received.”

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated January 20, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Campbell reported that in December, the SAL committee heard and approved one case. Following the presentation, the committee reviewed the progress of current SAL cases.

Trustee Campbell added that there were no new SAL cases brought forward to the January SAL meeting. The committee reviewed the progress of current SAL cases. There are currently ten students participating in the program.

6. Report of the Finance Committee

Moved by Kevin Maves

Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated December 16, 2020 be received.”

“That the hiring of a Human Rights and Equity Officer be received.”

“That the Financial Report on International Education 2020-21 be received, and that \$105,000 be allocated to support the 2020-21 recommended initiatives.”

“That the Capital Projects Borrowing Resolution 2020-03 authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$24,705,695 for the short-term financing of Ministry funded capital projects, pursuant to the provisions of section 243(1) of the Education Act, be approved.”

“That the 2020-21 Interim Financial Report, reflecting updated enrolments for October 31, 2020, and the corresponding changes in revenues and expenditures, be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves provided a summary of the Finance Committee meeting, which included discussions about the hiring of a Human Rights and Equity Officer, the Financial Report on International Education, the Capital Projects Borrowing Resolution 2020-03, and the 2020-21 Interim Financial Report.

OLD BUSINESS – CONTINUED

7. Report of the Program and Planning Committee

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Doug Newton

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated January 12, 2021 be received.”

“That the DSBN Academy Report be received.”

“That the Technology Program Update be received.”

“That the Menstrual Equity Report be received.”

“That the Secondary Programming Update be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Schaubel provided a summary of the Program and Planning Committee meeting, which included an update on DSBN Academy, a Technology Program update, a presentation of the Menstrual Equity Report, and a secondary programming update.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Baggott spoke to a change.org petition that was created by students about the recent changes to the multi-subject instructional period (MSIP). Superintendent McGregor explained that DSBN staff have spoken with the students that started the petition and that there was a misunderstanding. By removing MSIP, students will receive 20% more learning time with their teachers. This change is temporary because of COVID. DSBN encourages anyone with concerns about their success to contact their school so that a plan can be created.

Student trustees spoke in favor of the temporary changes to MSIP.

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 for V. Moretti

Correspondence from V. Moretti can be found on page 61 of the Board package.

b) Correspondence from R. Chambers and G. Chambers

Correspondence from R. Chambers and G. Chambers can be found on pages 62 and 63 of the Board package.

c) Correspondence from J. Ker

Correspondence from J. Ker can be found on page 64 and 65 of the Board package.

Chair Barnett noted that in addition to the 3 items of correspondence listed in the agenda, the Board has received additional correspondence relating to the same topic.

Moved by Nancy Beamer

Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the correspondence as listed in the agenda plus any other communications received by the board on the same subject matter be referred to the Policy Committee for immediate consideration and that a report be brought back to this board by the April meeting.”

CARRIED

Trustee Beamer spoke to the concerns expressed by community members and asked that trustees support the Policy Committee reviewing the letters as well as Policy A-09.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – CONTINUED

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

In response to concerns by a trustee, Director Hoshizaki and Board Lawyer, Jennifer Feren clarified the procedure used when the Director's Office receives correspondence.

4. TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

- a) Trustee Beamer shared that former DSBN student, Ffion Hughes, was recently named Rhodes Scholar and will be attending Oxford University in the fall to pursue a Master's degree in History.
- b) Trustee Klassen reported that she recently attended a Human Rights Program for School Board Leaders.
- c) Chair Barnett spoke to the Education Foundation of Niagara fundraiser, Porta Backyarda. The deadline to purchase tickets has been extended to mid-June. Tickets can be purchased online at efnniagara.dsb.org.

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

Trustee Baggott reported that, due to COVID-19, OPSBA's Public Education Symposium will be held virtually this year and will be free of charge. The conference will take place on January 28, 2021 and trustees are encouraged to register for this event. Minister of Education, Stephen Lecce will be speaking in the afternoon and Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health will be providing a provincial update on COVID-19. Trustee Baggott added that she had the opportunity to submit questions for Stephen Lecce on behalf of the Board.

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of February 2021 meetings was provided.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Doug Newton
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING - CONTINUED

“That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on January 26, 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 Nancy Beamer
Seconded by Doug Newton

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.

SUE BARNETT
Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI
Director of Education and Secretary