

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 6:40 p.m. | Public Session: 7:00 p.m. – 7:59 p.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

Tiya Patel, Salony Sharma, Kya Steinbach-Parker

OFFICIALS

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

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jennifer McGugan

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Wendy Coit, Alexis Kleiman, Eleanore Novak

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.

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 Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

“That the Board return to Open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:00 p.m.

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’

The Board stood as ‘*O Canada*’ was performed by Glendale Public School Choir, via video.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Shannon Mitchell shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Lora Campbell
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Elizabeth Klassen

Seconded by Kevin Maves

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 26, 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 Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Doug Newton

“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 – Rhonda Brown, Lunchroom Supervisor, Central French Immersion Public School

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Rhonda Brown for being a caring and committed lunchroom supervisor, as well as the time she has volunteered on evening and weekends using her own tools to landscape and beautify the school yard and property. She has engaged with the local community sharing the warmth of the school and parents have noticed and begun to help as “garden angels.” Director Hoshizaki presented Rhonda Brown with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her contributions.

b) Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Jody Leavens, Grounds Assistant, Facility Services

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Jody Leavens for his caring and dependable approach to his work as a facilities employee, the role he had in bringing to life the curriculum support services initiative to create outdoor learning spaces for kindergarten students, and his leadership in the DSBN Summer Curb Appeal program. Director Hoshizaki presented Jody Leavens with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her extraordinary contributions.

c) Treaties Recognition Week in DSBN 2021

Director Hoshizaki reported that schools across the DSBN worked to educate students through lessons, stories, discussion, videos, presentations, and interactive displays about Treaties Recognition Week, November 1-5, 2021.

d) The Secret Life of Pets – Audio Production Project

Director Hoshizaki introduced the video clip created by grade 12 Communication Technology students at Welland Centennial Secondary School. The video was the result of an audio production project in which they were tasked with removing the entire audio track to a movie trailer and creating all the sounds themselves using the school's ProTools system.

e) Snow Breathing Dragon

Director Hoshizaki congratulated students in the grade 7/8 class at DeWitt Carter Public School for winning the City of Port Colborne's plow decorating contest.

f) Technological Education – Student Projects

Director Hoshizaki noted pictures of exceptional technological design projects created by secondary students across the system.

2. Educational Showcases

a) Environmental Programs at James Morden School

Directors Hoshizaki highlighted the work at James Morden school on composting, vertical growing, and learning about responsible production of sustainable food and climate change. He introduced the CHCH video report on the student project designed to fight climate change and hunger issues. Students learned that thirty three percent of people who access food banks are kids like them.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

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 Parent Involvement Committee

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Kate Baggott

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated November 3, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Newton provided summary of the meeting which included an update from guest speaker Amanda Sherman on student mental health supports, and from guest speakers Pratima Burton and Zakia Hamdani on the School Culture Survey. Also, he noted the November PIC School Council Chair event and PIC Virtual Speaker Series presentations by Jean Clinton on Rising to Resilience in November, DSBN social workers on Anticipating and Coping with Holiday Stress in December, Anne Murray from Strong Minds-Strong Kids in January, and plans in February for the author of Cultivating Genius: An Equity Framework for Culturally and Historically Responsive Literacy, Dr. Ghodly Muhammad.

2. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

Moved by Nancy Beamer

Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated November 10, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Campbell reported that the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee reviewed and approved 3 new cases. The committee also reviewed 5 existing, active, and compliant cases.

3. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Jonathan Fast

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated November 10, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell provided a summary of the meeting, which included a student voice presentation highlighting the preschool transition process of a JK student at Nelles that transitioned from a

community program to Junior Kindergarten at the DSBN, a summary of the 2021-22 Special Education Budget by Superintendent Veld, and an update on the math pilot program designed to prepare students for destreamed math, as well as teacher professional development opportunities. Also shared was the Special Education team's work with teachers to support students remotely and the Ministry Guide to Remote Learning that will serve as a resource to complement the existing comprehensive approach. The committee was updated on the presentation by the central Special Education team to administrators on Cultivation Caring Conditions and Building a Culture of Inclusion through the In-School Team.

4. Audit Committee

Moved by Elizabeth Klassen

Seconded by Kevin Maves

"That the report of the Audit Committee dated November 15, 2021 be received."

"That the 2020-21 Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Ministry of Education be approved."

CARRIED

Superintendent Stacy Veld shared that the meeting began with presentation of the regional internal audit and the committee received the information security control terms of reference report. The 2020-21 Annual Report was reviewed, and the committee approved the report for submission to the Ministry of Education.

5. Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Moved by Tiya Patel

Seconded by Kya Steinbach-Parker and Salony Sharma

"That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated November 16, 2021 be received."

CARRIED

Student Trustee Patel shared that student senators listened to a presentation by Niagara Region Public Health (NRPH) regarding their Live Chat, which allows students to contact nurses virtually. Student senators moved into subcommittees to discuss topics pertaining to Student Success, Mental Health, and Communications. Student Trustee Steinbach-Parker reported that the subcommittees had discussions about stigma and school mental health initiatives, the NRPH Live Chat, and this year's learning model and student success. Also, noted were the Communications subcommittee plans to promote Student Senate across the DSBN.

Student Trustee Sharma reported on the Ontario Student Trustees Association (OSTA-AECO) Fall General Meeting conference that was held in Toronto where students learned about school boards across the province, networked with a diverse group of likeminded leaders, and participated in professional development sessions.

6. Report of the Policy Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Doug Newton

"That the report of the Policy Committee dated November 16, 2021 be received."

"That Policy A-11: Flag Protocol be deferred to the February 8, 2022 Policy Committee meeting."

"That Policy B-09: Privacy Management be approved as amended and adopted."

"That Policy E-03: Health and Safety be approved as received and adopted."

"That Policy E-15: Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention be approved as received and adopted."

"That Policy E-11: Equity and Inclusive Education be approved as amended and adopted."

"That Policy G-09: Anti-Sex Trafficking – Keeping Students Safe be approved as received and adopted."

"That Policy G-40: Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Health Conditions be approved as amended and adopted."

CARRIED

Vice-Chair Trustee Bradnam shared an update on the policy committee where a total of five policies were reviewed and one policy was newly developed and approved. Policy A-11 was deferred to seek further input and consideration. Policy B-09 was revised to align with privacy audit recommendations. Policy E-11 was moved to section G and rewritten to reflect current practice and include gender identity and expression. Policy G-40 was revised based on learning from a variety of stakeholders to further support students with prevalent medical conditions that require the administration of emergency rescue medication during medical emergencies. Also, a new policy based on policy/program memorandum 166, G-09: Anti-Sex Trafficking – Keeping Students Safe, was presented and approved by the committee. Policies being reviewed at the February policy committee meeting will be open for vetting on the DSBN website from November 26 to January 20.

In response to a question, Superintendent St. John noted that policy G-40 was revised to allow for the administration of rescue medication by staff to students in life-threatening medical emergencies. Staff will be trained and follow healthcare providers direction found in the individual plan of care for students with diabetes and other prevalent medical conditions.

7. Report of the Finance Committee

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Kate Baggott

"That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 17, 2021 be received."

"That the Enhanced Student Access to Free Menstrual Products in Ontario Schools report, be received."

"That the Annual Report on DSBN Investments as at August 31, 2021, be received."

“That Borrowing Resolution 2021-02 authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$16,349,605 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 Schedule of Accumulated Surplus for the year ended August 31, 2021, be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves reported that the committee received a presentation on the Ministry of Education’s funding initiative on free access to menstrual products in schools. The DSBN Menstrual Equity Initiative was supported through a trustee approved budget increase and therefore Ministry funds were redirected to other boards in need. Also presented were reports on the Summary of Investments, and the short-term financing of Ministry funded capital projects to support capital improvement for our schools and a Schedule of Accumulated Surplus for Trustee approval. It was noted that the surplus was a result of operating budget savings from the impact of COVID-19.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions.

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

There was no correspondence received.

4. TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

Trustee Beamer shared that E.L. Crossley received honours in two programs: green industry, and visual arts. E.L. Crossley senior boys volleyball team won the AA SOSSA championships.

Trustee Schaubel noted the Port Colborne High School broken spokes program where students repair broken bicycles that are being shipped to children in need.

Trustee Barnett shared that Education Foundation of Niagara recently held an outdoor fun run and walk where there were prizes for all that took part and children received new sneakers. She also noted that the 'Porta Backyarda' draw is still open and will close on Dec 27.

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

Trustee Baggott shared that at the last regional meeting Project Compass was discussed, and each board in the province was invited to provide input on the consultation for Grants for Student Needs (GSN). She also noted that the Public Education Symposium will be held on January 28, 2022.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of December 2021 meetings was provided.

The December Days of Significance calendar was provided.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Nancy Beamer
Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on November 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 7:59 p.m.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021



SUE BARNETT

Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI

Director of Education and Secretary