

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 7:02 p.m. | Public Session: 7:04 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, Simon Hancox,
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, Kara Hiott-Bowles, 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 7:04 p.m.

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 Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

“That the Board return to Open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:02 p.m.

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’

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

A moment of silence was observed in honour of a staff member who recently passed.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Elizabeth Klassen shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Lora Campbell

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – CONTINUED

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated September 28, 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 Kevin Maves

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“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 - Tammy Marr, Head Custodian, Fitch Street Public School

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Tammy Marr for her knowledge of schools and staff, noting the pride that she takes in her work. He also highlighted her kind and positive contributions toward creating an inclusive school environment for everyone. Director Hoshizaki presented Tammy Marr with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her contributions.

b) Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions - Ann Langille, Head Custodian, Lockview Public School

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS - CONTINUED

Via video, Director Hoshizaki recognized Ann Langille for her strong work ethic, attention to detail, positive nature, and her impact on the school community. Director Hoshizaki presented Ann Langille with a token of the Board's appreciation for her extraordinary contributions.

c) Westlane SS Community Garden

Director Hoshizaki reported that the Westlane Secondary School Community Garden is a partnership between the Westlane Green Industries program and Project Share. It provides students with hands-on experiential learning opportunities as they work alongside community volunteers to grow and harvest fresh produce for the local food bank. Each year the Westlane Community Garden provides thousands of pounds of fresh produce for local food banks.

2. Educational Showcases

a) Welcome to Grade 9

Directors Hoshizaki introduced a video presentation on students being welcomed into grade 9. While adhering to Covid 19 safety protocols, schools welcomed students from grade 9 and 10 to participate in outdoor orientation activities. Students shared the importance this connection had in helping them feel supported and prepared for their transition to secondary school.

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 Nancy Beamer

Seconded by Doug Newton

"That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated October 6, 2021 be received."

OLD BUSINESS - CONTINUED

CARRIED

Trustee Beamer provided a summary of the meeting which included an update on learning and extra curricular activities in schools, the elementary school active Covid screening process, and the PIC Virtual Speaker Series upcoming session on children's mental health and well-being.

2. Report of the Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Trustee Advisory Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Dave Schaubel

"That the report of the Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Trustee Advisory Committee dated October 12, 2021 be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell shared that the meeting began with an update from the DSBN Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Community Advisory Committee where input was sought on the Equity and Inclusive Education policy and the Gender Identity and Gender Expression guidelines. She also noted that the Equity Team shared with the Trustee Committee the DSBN Days of Significance calendar, the DSBN Equity Action Plan and the plan for School Culture Surveys.

In response to a question, Superintendent Pisek shared that DSBN is not permitted to record the professional development on Islamophobia. She noted that the session information will be available for DSBN staff unable to attend the event.

3. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

Moved by Lora Campbell

Seconded by Kate Baggott

"That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated October 13, 2021 be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Campbell reported that the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee reviewed and approved 4 cases during the October 13, 2021 meeting. Following the case presentations, the committee reviewed the progress of current students participating in the SAL program.

OLD BUSINESS - CONTINUED

4. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Alex Bradnam

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

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

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell provided a summary of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which included the appointment of a vice-chair, a student presentation highlighting the support of assistive technology, a summary of the process for allowing the administration of rescue medication in emergency situations in schools, and updates on the gifted program, the credit recovery process, as well as the upcoming administrator presentation from the Special Education Team.

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 September 23, 2021 be received.”

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated October 19, 2021 be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustee Sharma shared that the role and responsibilities of student trustees and senators, as well as the Senate’s structure and goals, were discussed at the September meeting. The meeting concluded with an open table where questions were addressed, and ideas were exchanged.

Student Trustee Patel reported that an update regarding the accomplishments of the menstrual equity initiative was shared at the October meeting. Senators were informed of School Mental Health Ontario’s current initiatives and Superintendent Leanne Smith discussed the importance of student voice in regards to sexual assault and harassment. Senators received presentations regarding Brave Spaces, the School Culture Survey, and Destreaming.

Student Trustee Steinbach-Parker provided an update on the decision to break the senate into three subcommittees which are student success, mental health, and communications.

OLD BUSINESS - CONTINUED

6. Report of the Program and Planning Committee

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated October 19, 2021 be received."

"That the DSBN Vaccination Disclosure Protocol be received."

"That the De-Streaming Update Report be received."

"That the DSBN Student Mask Exemption Process be received."

"That the Outdoor Education Report be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Schaubel shared there was an update on the DSBN vaccination disclosure policy, the de-streaming plan for grade 9 programming, the student mask exemption process that follows Ministry of Education guidelines, and the outdoor education report on the outdoor campuses that offer exciting outdoor programs for all DSBN students.

7. Report of the Finance Committee

Moved by Kevin Maves

Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

"That the report of the Finance Committee dated October 20, 2021 be received."

"That the Award of Contracts Summary Report for the period ended September 30, 2021, be received."

"That the Summary of Accounts paid for the month of June, July, August and September 2021, totaling \$91,821,154 be received."

"That Policy A-18 Environmental Sustainability be directed to the Policy Committee."

CARRIED

Trustee Maves shared an update on the award of contracts report, the summary of accounts paid, and information on environmental sustainability in DSBN's operational practices. Policy A-18 Environmental Sustainability was directed to the Policy Committee for review.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

In response to a question about the use of N-95 masks, Director Hoshizaki noted that the DSBN has provided staff with PPE that meets the guidelines outlined by the Ministry of Education and Public Health. Staff who wish to wear an N95 mask, can submit a request through their supervisor to determine if a mask is approved by the Health and Safety Officer.

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 Barnett shared that the Education Foundation of Niagara is having a Fun Run & Walk Costume Event on Saturday October 30, 2021.

Trustee Mitchell shared that the Niagara Regional Native Centre is having a Virtual Pow Wow on November 6, 2021.

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

There was no OPSBA report.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of November 2021 meetings was provided.
The November Days of Significance calendar was provided.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Doug Newton
Seconded by Alex Bradnam

“That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on October 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 Kate Baggott
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

SUE BARNETT
Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI
Director of Education and Secretary