

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022

Private Session: 6:15 p.m. – 6:29 p.m. | Public Session: 7:00 p.m. – 8:09 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD

Kate Baggott, Alex Bradnam (Vice Chair), Sue Barnett (Chair), Nancy Beamer, Helga Campbell, Jonathan Fast, Susan Jovanovic, Deanne MacIntosh, Shannon Mitchell

STUDENT TRUSTEES

Tiya Patel, Julianna Marcel, Kya Steinbach-Parker

OFFICIALS

Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, Simon Hancox, Ann Gilmore, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, Leanne Smith, Michael St. John, Darren Vanhooydonk, Stacy Veld, Jennifer Feren, Maryam Safdar Ali, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Morgan

REGRETS

Elizabeth Klassen

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jennifer McGugan

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Nate Burns, Wendy Coit

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 Shannon Mitchell

“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 the Oakridge Public School Choir, via video.

A moment of silence was observed in recognition of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Susan Jovanovic shared a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That the Agenda be adopted.”
CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Jonathan Fast

Seconded by Susan Jovanovic

“That the Minutes of the Organization Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated November 15, 2022, be confirmed as submitted.”

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated November 15, 2022, 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 Helga Campbell

Seconded by Nancy Beamer

“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 - Jodi Cupolo and Shari Colquhoun, Lunchroom Supervisors and Volunteers, Ross Public School

Director Hoshizaki recognized Jodi Cupolo and Shari Colquhoun for being kind, caring, generous and committed lunchroom supervisors. They volunteer their time at fundraising activities, Book Fairs, and connecting with staff and students. They aim to make every day a better day for the students. Director Hoshizaki presented Jodi Cupolo and Shari Colquhoun with a token of the Board’s appreciation for their contributions.

b) Director’s Report

Director Hoshizaki provided information highlights on the following:

- **Take Me Outside Day - October 19, 2022**
- **Skilled Trades Fair**
- **Niagara College Grade 10 Days**
- **Niagara Early Learning and Child Care Awards of Excellence Winners**

- **Elementary Indigenous Education Professional Development**
- **Grade 8 Open Houses**

2. Educational Showcases

a) **Laura Secord SS Art Challenge**

Superintendent Gilmore thanked all teachers in music, visual arts and drama for how they effectively teach creative thinking and problem-solving and introduced Amy Converset, Secondary Arts Consultant - Curriculum Support Services. Amy explained how Laura Secord Secondary School's Visual Arts Department challenged DSBN secondary schools to a one-day, high-speed, spontaneous and creative Art Battle. Forty-one teams competed using a variety of mediums. She introduced seven artists present at the Board meeting to showcase a variety of mediums and the vast creativity that can happen at this type of event. Director Hoshizaki read 5 prompts and the students chose 3 of the 5 prompts to inspire the artwork they created during the meeting. Attendees were invited to join the artists in the Atrium after the meeting. Two Laura Secord students shared their experiences at the Laura Secord Art Battle which helped them create memories and develop friendships, collaborate with others, broaden their horizons and expand their views on art. They introduced a video that highlighted the Art Battle experience at Laura Secord.

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 Special Education Advisory Committee**

Moved by Alex Bradnam
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated November 10, 2022, be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell shared that the student voice segment highlighted a JK student from Smithville Public School who has an identification of Autism. The presentation outlined his transition to the kindergarten program and detailed how DSBN schools partner with outside agencies and families to support a successful start to school. Also, the committee received a presentation by DSBN Safe, Healthy and Inclusive Schools Consultant, Bob Rigas, on the draft DSBN Bullying Prevention and Intervention plan. Committee members were asked to provide feedback through a survey link. Members of the DSBN Curriculum Support Services team, Mary Zwolak, Student Achievement Leader Curriculum, and Sonia Upton, Consultant Library and Media K-12, provided information on the DSBN's Early Reading Strategies. As part of this presentation, Nikki Train, Student Achievement Leader, Special Education, noted the valued collaboration between Special Education Support Services and Curriculum Support Services in working to meet the needs of all students.

2. Report of the Audit Committee

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the report of the Audit Committee dated November 14, 2022, be received."
"That the 2021-22 Annual Report of the Audit Committee be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education."

CARRIED

Superintendent Veld shared that the audit committee approved the annual report for 2021-22 for submission to the Ministry of Education. The report confirmed the audit engagements that were in progress in 2021-22 and will continue with follow-up reviews in 2022-23. The committee also confirmed that no enrolment audits are scheduled.

3. Report of the Policy Committee

Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

"That the report of the Policy Committee dated November 22, 2022, be received."
"That Policy G-31: Voluntary, Confidential Indigenous Student Self-Identification be approved as amended and adopted."
"That Policy E-03: Health and Safety be approved as accepted and adopted."
"That Policy E-04: Infectious Disease and Communicable Diseases be approved as amended and adopted."
"That Policy G-30: Head Lice (Pediculosis) be revoked."
"That Policy E-15: Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention be approved as amended and

adopted.”

“That Policy E-13: Attendance Support Program be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy E-19: Teacher Termination Resulting from Unsatisfactory Performance Appraisal Process be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy I-04: Teacher Exchange- within DSBN be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-05: Home Schooling be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-12: Home Use of Equipment Purchased Through the Special Equipment Amount (SEA) be approved as amended and adopted.”

“That Policy D-13: Applied Behaviour Analysis be approved as amended and adopted.”

CARRIED

Trustee Bradnam shared that the committee reviewed 11 policies. Policy amendments were made to align with current terminology and to ensure information is updated. Policy G-30 was revoked because it is no longer necessary. The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2023. Policies being presented will be open for vetting on the DSBN website from December 13, 2022, to February 7, 2023.

In response to questions, Superintendent VanHooydonk noted that school administrators all follow a similar process for dealing with headlice. All responses to head lice notifications are handled with dignity and respect for students and their families.

4. Report of the Student Trustee Senate

Moved by Julianna Marcel

Seconded by Tiya Patel and Kya Steinbach-Parker

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated November 24, 2022, be received.”

CARRIED

Student Trustee Marcel shared that the senate received a presentation from Michael St. John, Superintendent Of Special Education & Mental Health and Well-Being, on the DSBN’s Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan. Senators split into subcommittee groups to discuss improvement ideas for their schools. Student Trustee Steinbach-Parker and Student Trustee Marcel shared that during the Student Success Subcommittee breakout senators discussed EQAO results, the issue of students gathering in washrooms, diversifying cosmetology classes, and ways to make cafeteria options more diverse and inclusive for all students. The Communications Subcommittee is working on an Instagram media series in preparation for exam season. The Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee discussed the structure and initiatives of Brave Spaces and School Equity Clubs. Student Trustee Patel shared that she attended the Policy Working Group meeting with OPSBA where they spoke about the importance of

student trustee governance. They are continuing to work to have school boards support an amendment to the Education Act to allow student trustees to independently move and second motions. Also, she shared that she attended the Advocacy Day with OPSBA where she advocated for students on topics such as equity, diversity, inclusion, and transportation needs.

5. Report of the Finance Committee

Moved by Deanne MacIntosh
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 30, 2022, be received.”

“That Policy B-02: Mileage Reimbursement Rate, be approved.”

“That Policy B-04: Investment and Management of Board Funds, be approved.”

“That Borrowing Resolution 2022-01 authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$15,071,473 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 Summary of Accounts paid for the months of September and October 2022, totaling \$60,178,642 be received.”

“That the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus for the year ended August 31, 2022, be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustee Barnett shared that she accepted the nomination and was acclaimed as Chair of the Finance Committee for the 2022-24 fiscal term, as no other names were brought forward. Joining the committee members were Vice-Chair Alex Bradnam, Trustee Susan Jovanovic and Trustee Deanne MacIntosh. The committee reviewed and approved two policies. The Short-Term Financing of Ministry Funded Capital Projects was presented, and the Ministry of Education approved funding under the Capital Priorities grant program to support various capital improvements for DSBN schools. Also, the Summary of Accounts report summarizing the cash outflow of expenditures paid during the months of September and October 2022 and the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus were presented. The committee was provided information on the history of the accumulated surplus and how it was used.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

In response to a question, Superintendent Reimer Friesen reported that the DSBN subscribes to a provincial consortium that reviews the educational software used to ensure the protection of student data. Jennifer Feren, Board Lawyer, shared that in addition to the standard licensing agreements with Google and Microsoft, on behalf of all school boards, the province negotiated separate addendums that also protect student data. Further, Jennifer Feren, Board Lawyer confirmed that all procurement for the DSBN must

adhere to MFIPPA. Director Hoshizaki shared that the DSBN currently has a posting for a Security and IT position.

In response to a question, Director Hoshizaki shared that there is no update from the Ministry on the addition of an Indigenous trustee.

In response to questions, Superintendent Gilmore noted that there has been no increase in suspensions or violent incidents over the last few years and that tobacco enforcement officers are not invited into schools to address smoking and vaping incidents.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. STANDING AND STATUTORY AND AD HOC COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Susan Jovanovic

“That the following trustee committee assignments be approved and remain in effect until August 31, 2024, save and except for the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Investigation Committee, which both require a four (4) year term commitment.

CARRIED

Committee	Trustees
Audit Committee	Kate Baggott Jonathan Fast Susan Jovanovic
Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) *Trustees serve a 4-year term	Elizabeth Klassen Shannon Mitchell Alex Bradnam (Alternate) Helga Campbell (Alternate)
Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee	Helga Campbell
Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)	Alex Bradnam Deanne MacIntosh
Student Trustee Senate	Nancy Beamer Susan Jovanovic
Policy Committee	Kate Baggott Sue Barnett Alex Bradnam Susan Jovanovic Deanne MacIntosh
Program and Planning Committee (P&P)	Lora Campbell Jonathan Fast Elizabeth Klassen Deanne MacIntosh

	Shannon Mitchell
Finance Committee	Sue Barnett Helga Campbell Lora Campbell Jonathan Fast
Equity, Inclusions and Anti-Racism Trustee Advisory Committee	Kate Baggott Sue Barnett Nancy Beamer Elizabeth Klassen Shannon Mitchell
Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Investigation Committee *Trustees serve a 4-year term	Sue Barnett (Chair) Alex Bradnam (Vice-Chair) Nancy Beamer Helga Campbell
Ad Hoc Student Discipline Committee	Sue Barnett Alex Bradnam Helga Campbell Nancy Beamer (Alternate) Lora Campbell (Alternate)

In response to a question, Superintendent Pisek shared that student trustees will remain on the Equity Inclusion and Anti-Racism Community Advisory Committee.

In response to a question, Trustee Barnett explained the process for assigning trustees to Board committees.

2. DIRECTOR AND VOTING DELEGATE FOR ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS’ ASSOCIATION (OPSBA)

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

“That Trustee Kate Baggott be appointed to serve as OPSBA Director and to hold the position of Voting Delegate for the Annual General Meeting and Regional Council meetings for the remainder of the 2022-2023 term, ending August 31, 2023.”

“That Trustee Helga Campbell be appointed to serve as OPSBA Alternate Director and to hold the position of Alternate Voting Delegate for the Annual General Meeting and Regional Council meetings for the 2022-2023, ending August 31, 2023.”

CARRIED

Trustees were asked to appoint DSBN representatives for the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA) Director and Voting Delegate and the Alternate Director and Alternate Voting Delegate for the remainder of the 2022-2023 term.

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 or communication.

4. TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

Trustee Barnett shared that she attended Welland City Hall to receive a donation on behalf of EFN. Trustee Baggott commended Gracefield Public School on their door-to-door food drive for Community Care.

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

Trustee Baggott shared that the recent OPSBA meeting, time was spent preparing for Advocacy Day. Trustee Baggott attended with Student Trustee Patel and asked that she provide an update. Trustee Patel shared that she met with Jennie Stevens, MPP, St. Catharines, who was supportive of the advocacy by the Student Trustee Senate to amend the Education Act to allow student trustees to independently move and second motions and that she would send a letter of support. Trustee Patel also met with Patrice Barnes, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education, who was a former trustee and understands the trustee's role in advocacy. They also heard from Elaine Johnson about Indigenous architecture and its implementation in schools.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of January 2023 meetings was provided.
The January Days of Significance calendar was provided.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Deanne MacIntosh
Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on December 6, 2022, 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

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

SUE BARNETT
Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI
Director of Education and Secretary