Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2015
Education Centre
St. Catharines

6:00 - 6:15 p.m. [Organization Meeting]
6:15 - 7:00 p.m. [Private Session]
7:00 - 10:00 p.m. [Public Session]

A G E N D A

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
   1. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent
   2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
   1. Motion to Move to Committee of the Whole (Private Session)
   2. Motion to Return to Open Board (Public Meeting)

C. SINGING OF ‘O CANADA’
   Ross Public School choir will perform ‘O Canada’, via video

D. REFLECTIVE READING
   By Trustee Jonathan Fast
E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

   Recommended Motion:
   “That the Agenda be adopted.”

2. Approval of Board Minutes

   Recommended Motion:
   “That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated November 24, 2015 be confirmed as submitted.”

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole

   Recommended Motion:
   “That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.”

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS

1. Director’s Report and Recognition

   Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective
   
   a) Director’s Recognition – The Rotary Club of St. Catharines
   b) Director’s Update to Trustees

2. Educational Showcases

   a) FRAMES Video Competition
   b) Director’s Holiday Card Contest
G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

H. DELEGATIONS

I. BOARD RECESS (Optional)

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

   C. Keddy Scott
   Pages 17-20

   Recommended Motion:

   “That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated November 19, 2015 be received.”

2. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

   J. Dubé / K. Hilborn
   Pages 21-25

   Recommended Motion:

   “That the report of the Student Trustee Senate, dated November 25, 2015 be received.”

3. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

   D. Schaubel
   Pages 26-38

   Recommended Motion:

   “That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated December 1, 2015 be received”; and

   “That the report of the Educational Research Committee of October 15, 2015 be received and that the report of the Educational Research Committee of November 12, 2015 be received”; and

   “That the Board receive the Secondary School Program Review for the Current Year 2015-16”; and

   “That the Board receive the Secondary School Program Review for the Subsequent Year 2016-17.”
4. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

J Ajandi / H Campbell
Pages 39-40

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated December 2, 2015 be received.”

5. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (Handout)

K Maves

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated December 8, 2015 be received.”

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

L. NEW BUSINESS

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Staff Reports

2. Trustee Information Session

3. Correspondence and Communications

   a) Correspondence from Greater Essex County District School Board

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

5. Ontario Public School Boards’ Association Report

   J Ajandi

6. Future Meetings

   Pages 42-43
The calendars for December and January are attached.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

“That this meeting of the District School Board of Niagara be now adjourned.”
December 8, 2015 Board Meeting  
Director’s Update to Trustees  

Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – The Rotary Club of St. Catharines

The Rotary Club of St. Catharines has been a community partner and supporter of Lincoln Centennial Public School for the past six years.

Each year, Rotary Club members donate thousands of dollars and many hours of their time to the school. A great deal of this volunteer time is spent in Lincoln Centennial’s breakfast room. Each day, two or three Rotarians and their family members cook a hot breakfast for between 20 and 60 students. This service is so important for the social, emotional and cognitive development of the students. Without question, the students have benefited from the positive interaction and conversations of many caring adults. Starting the day with a nutritious breakfast has helped remove a barrier so the students can focus their full efforts on academic tasks.

The Rotary Club has provided thousands of dollars to enhance literacy initiatives at Lincoln Centennial. Some of the ways these funds have been used are for trips, technology and library enhancements. The students have benefited from a number of excursions to local attractions such as the Bird Kingdom. Students were able to use these experiences in a number of writing activities including descriptive writing and thank you letters. Lincoln Centennial has also been the recipient of a number of iPads, iPods, Netbooks and audio books. All of these technical devices have been used in multiple ways to support student learning. As well, the Rotary Club routinely donates funds for dual language, picture books and novels. All of these resources have allowed the school to have an outstanding library collection which benefits all students.

It is stated that some of the key assets for the development of youth and adolescents include the need for “a caring school climate”, “community that values youth” and “positive adult role models.” Rotary’s involvement with Lincoln Centennial and the greater St. Catharines community has made a significant difference in the lives of DSBN students.

The Rotary Club is most deserving of the Director’s Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions award. Congratulations!
Local

Awards of Excellence Winners
Congratulations to the following DSBN staff who were recognized at the Early Childhood Development Centre Awards of Excellence in Early Childhood Education evening on November 19, 2015:

Family Support Program Practitioner Award:
Tammy Harris - Parent Facilitator at the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre at Peace Bridge P.S.

Full Day Early Learning Team Excellence Award:
Mike Folino/Mary Schmagala - Cherrywood Acres P.S.
Melissa Philip/Amy Canning - Westdale P.S.

2015 DSBN High School Open Houses
From November 30th to December 3rd, DSBN schools rolled out the red carpet for Grade 8 students and their families. This annual event is designed to support the successful transition of students into high schools. Students have the opportunity to tour the building and experience what life will be like in high school.

As they always do, schools pulled out all the stops to make all visitors feel like stars. Using the red carpet theme, schools looked like scenes straight out of Hollywood. They incorporated special lighting, photo booths and catered delicious snacks. Each school also took time to show off what they excel at – everything from athletics to performing arts and robotics.

This year’s event was well attended with thousands of students taking time to walk the red carpet. Schools will also keep the momentum going throughout the year with a number of different transition activities designed to help students feel welcomed and prepared for a great start in their new school in September.

I want to thank all our schools, their staffs, principals and vice-principals for their support of this positive initiative. Their hard work showed as they hosted welcoming events that were appreciated by all students and families. I would also like to acknowledge Communications and Printing Services for their dedicated support, providing printed materials, design and promotional support.

Upload: Student Newspaper Project
Each day, there are any number of great stories taking place in DSBN schools. They are stories of success, perseverance and community service.

Unfortunately, local media simply do not have the resources to tell each one of those stories. However, thanks to a partnership between the DSBN and Postmedia Niagara, high school students are being given the opportunity to tell those stories in the newspaper in their own words!
The Upload initiative, which began two weeks ago, will see the St. Catharines Standard, Welland Tribune and Niagara Falls Review publish columns written by DSBN students. Students write about the subject of their choice and share their thoughts and feelings with the community. So far, students at Port Colborne High School and the Alternative Education program have had their articles published. It is a great way to give our communities some insight into our schools and give them a better understanding of the great work being done by students.

I would like to thank Postmedia Niagara for their support and partnership, our schools for their participation and the DSBN Communications Department for coordinating this initiative.
November 1, 2015

Honourable Liz Sandals,
Minister of Education,
Ministry of Education,
Mowat Block, 22nd Floor,
900 Bay Street,
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Sandals,

O. Reg. 357/06 Honoraria for Board Members, sets out the method for calculating the limits on honoraria paid under section 191 of the Education Act. Sub-section 7(2) of the regulation states that “the attendance amount may be paid to a member for attending any meeting of a committee of the board that is required to be established by an Act or a regulation made under an Act.” There are currently four committees that require membership of one or more trustees under the Education Act: Audit Committee, Parent Involvement Committee, Supervised Alternative Learning Committee and Special Education Advisory Committee.

The Board of Trustees strongly believe that the Student Discipline Committee should be one of those committees where an attendance amount should be paid because of the time and effort required to prepare and attend. These decisions require considerable contemplation and can result in serious consequences for students and families. Your favourable decision on this matter would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gale Simko-Hatfield
Chairperson of the Board

cc: Ontario Public School Board Association
    English Public School Board Chairs
# December 2015

## Trustee Calendar

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