CALL TO ORDER AND NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT

Dalt Clark, Chair, called the Regular Session of the Board Meeting to order at 8:00 p.m..

Chair Clark welcomed everyone in the gallery to the Board Meeting, particularly the Gainsborough Elementary School students and the Brock Faculty of Education students. Chair Clark invited the Brock students to ask Board officials and Senior staff questions following the Board Meeting.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  

Moved by Liz Fulford

“That we move into Committee of the Whole Board (Private Session).”

CARRIED

Moved by Corey Fitzgerald

“That we move out of Committee of the Whole Board (Private Session).”

CARRIED

SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood and joined in the singing of "O Canada" accompanied by the Junior Choir from Gainsborough Elementary School under the direction of Amanda Salomons.

OPENING PRAYER OR REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee, Gary Atamanyk, opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Corey Fitzgerald
Seconded by Don Love

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Robert Lewis
Seconded by Liz Fulford

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated September 13, 2005 be confirmed as submitted.”

CARRIED
BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES (H)

No business arising.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD PRIVATE SESSION) (I)

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Gary Atamanyk

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

Staff Matters - Elementary
Staff Matters - Secondary
Staff Matters - Support Staff
Human Resources/Negotiations
Grievance Update
Legal/Property Update

CARRIED

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS (J)

DSBN Technological Skills Camp

Kevin Graham, Consultant - Technological Education, addressed the Board thanking the Board for the invitation to share the successes of the first Summer Technological Skills Camp, and also thanked Superintendent, Ardeth Staz, and Tara Hall, Communications Officer, for their support and direction. Trustees were provided with an envelope containing information on the DSBN's technology programs and a CD produced by Lisa Stavnitzky, Technology Resource Teacher. Kevin Graham acknowledged sponsors of the Technological Skills Camp, Skills Canada; General Motors; and Tourcom Systems. Teacher Leonard Aylward was recognized for being instrumental in running the program for twenty-two students from all four School Boards in Niagara. The Board viewed the CD which highlighted the Technological Skills Camp.

Grade 9 student, Evan, addressed the Board describing his participation at the Technological Skills Camp, noting the Robotics competition was his favourite activity.

Grade 7 student, Brock, addressed the Board sharing the lessons he learned at the Technological Skills Camp and the importance of technology.

Trustee, Don Love, asked who would receive the pamphlet “Skills Work” noting the fascinating statistics and information. Kevin Graham indicated copies of the pamphlet are distributed to all elementary and secondary schools and that Skills Canada will be making presentations in schools this year. Trustee, Helen Hall, thanked Kevin Graham for his work at the Technological Skills Camp and the work he does during the year to inspire students and staff, and commended students Evan and Brock on their
EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS - continued

DSBN Technological Skills Camp

presentation. Trustee Hall indicated that many good paying jobs are upcoming in skilled trades and that message needs to be conveyed to students and the community.

Gainsborough: A Caring and Giving School Community

Principal, Sue MacNeil, addressed the Board stating that tonight's presentation is a celebration of Gainsborough as a giving and caring community, and is a remembrance of the Woerlen family. Principal MacNeil recognized the 40 member choir under the direction of teacher Amanda Salomons and accompanied on piano by Jude Kudera. Principal MacNeil introduced teacher Mike Reid, Kathy Wetselaar, Educational Assistant, and students Sarah, Marcus, Deanna, and Tyson. Student Sarah described the school's Tsunami relief efforts by raising funds through the sale of the choir's CD. The choir performed a number of songs for the Board.

A presentation by Gainsborough students and staff on the "Woerlen Memorial Playground" followed. Funds were raised by the community and used to construct the Woerlen Memorial Playground at Gainsborough Elementary School to honour the memory of the Woerlen children and their mother. The Grand Opening of the playground was celebrated before school started in September with 1,000 people attending. A dedication ceremony took place today to recognize the completion of the landscaping and park area.

Trustees Robert Lewis and Liz Fulford commended the choir, and thanked the staff and students for their presentation. Trustee, Don Love, who was present at the Grand Opening in August, and today's dedication, commended Principal MacNeil, the staff and students for their strong presentation, and thanked community members for making the Memorial Playground possible. Chair Dalt Clark, thanked the staff and parents for making it possible for the students to make their presentation.

DELEGATIONS

None requested

BOARD RECESS

No Board recess was called.
OLD BUSINESS

1. **SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS**

   Moved by Kevin Maves  
   Seconded by Robert Lewis  

   “That summary of accounts paid in batch numbers 0360 to 0364 for August 2005 totalling $14,547,393.49 be ratified.”

   **CARRIED**

2. **REPORT OF THE RECOGNITION COMMITTEE**

   Moved by Don Love  
   Seconded by Marcy Heit  

   “That the report of the Recognition Committee dated September 22, 2005 be received.”

   **CARRIED**

   Trustee, Don Love, provided a verbal summary of the report noting the date of the next meeting should read October 27 followed by November 24, 2005. Trustee Love reported that the Committee viewed samples of clocks suggested as retirement gifts. Trustee Love noted the following list of upcoming events:
   
   - April 19, 2006, Staff Awards  
   - May 18, 2006, Secondary Excellence in Education  
   - June 2, 2006, DSBN Retirement Dinner  
   - June 12, 2006 (tentative), Distinguished Achievement Awards  
   - Scholarship Exam winners will be recognized at the last Board Meeting in June 2006  
   - Elementary Excellence in Education will be recognized at their schools

   Chair, Dalt Clark, confirmed the list of upcoming events will be made available to the Trustees.

3. **REPORT OF THE MULTI-WORKPLACE JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

   Moved by Helen Hall  
   Seconded by Corey Fitzgerald  

   “That the report of the Multi-Workplace Joint Health and Safety Committee dated September 13, 2005 be received.”

   **CARRIED**

   Trustee, Gary Atamanyk, provided a verbal summary of the report noting the training presentation by Michael Langlois, Health and Safety Officer, on safety training for staff. Inspections of plant and equipment in the Board are being scheduled to commence. Discussion took place on health and safety procedures involving critical injury, special
OLD BUSINESS - continued

3. REPORT OF THE MULTI-WORKPLACE JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE - continued

needs, storage of flammable and chemical materials, and the use of roof ladders. All other matters were deferred to the next meeting. Trustee, Helen Hall, added that an annual inspection list is available and Trustees who may be interested in going on an inspection were directed to contact Carol MacAllister, Plant Department. Trustee Hall noted that inspection responsibilities will be shared more equally between Health and Safety members and alternates so it is not an onerous job. Trustee Hall thanked Superintendent, Sue Greer, for undertaking the initiative of making fire safety training available to Principals and Vice-Principals before school started.

Trustee, Marcy Heit, asked for clarification that the Monthly Inspections Update (05.09.4.2) should read 2005-2006 Site List. Trustee Hall confirmed it should read 2005-2006.

4. STRATEGIC PLANNING

Trustee, Liz Fulford, provided a verbal report of the Strategic Planning meeting held on September 27, 2005. Trustees Corey Fitzgerald and Liz Fulford, Director, Warren Hoshizaki, and Supervisory Officer, Sue Greer, were present as well as representatives from the elementary and secondary administrators group. A presentation was made by Consultant, John Laughlin, a former Director of Education, who has done a considerable amount of strategic planning work. Mr. Laughlin provided some samples and explained his vision of the strategic planning process. Superintendent Greer drafted a list of suggested stakeholders who will participate in the process. Mr. Laughlin explained that he will lead a number of sessions to identify the Board's mission and vision, draft statements for the group's review based on the stakeholders input, and formulate an operational plan to achieve identified goals. Three main goals will be developed under the leadership of Supervisory Officers. It is anticipated the process will be completed by the end of the current school year. The group expressed an interest in retaining Mr. Laughlin's services. Trustee Fulford asked the Board for feedback on the groups recommendation to retain the services of John Laughlin in developing the Board's Strategic Plan at a cost of under $20,000, plus printing.

A brief discussion followed with a number of Trustees requesting samples of Mr. Laughlin's work. Support was expressed to proceed with the strategic planning process as recommended. Director, Warren Hoshizaki, commented on the proposed strategic planning process noting he was happy with the Committee that has been brought together and the direction given by the Board. Director Hoshizaki indicated that discussion will take place with the Consultant, Supervisory Officers, and staff before moving forward. Trustees will be provided with a package as a resource.

Chair, Dalt Clark, indicated a formal motion was not required as sufficient funds have been allocated in the budget to cover the projected cost of $20,000.00. Chair Clark asked that the Board be kept updated and that each Trustee be advised of the meeting dates. Director Hoshizaki indicated the first meeting may be scheduled for October 26, 27, or 28 and a list of meeting dates will be provided when finalized.
QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

(a) Trustee, Helen Hall, asked for enrolment information. Superintendent, Barb McArthur, reported that elementary enrolment is down 46 students from the predicted enrolment as of the first week of school. Superintendent, George Thomas, reported that enrolment at the secondary level is more fluid but it is expected that enrolment will be up approximately 150 students at October 31, 2005, with a maximum enrolment from Grade 8.

(b) Trustee, Liz Fulford, asked that the Board Meeting Agenda be amended to include Strategic Planning updates and verbal reports of the Education Foundation of Niagara as regular items.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)**

   Trustee, Don Love, verbally reported that the Board of Directors met on September 23 and 24, 2005. Trustee Love provided the Board with a list of the following issues that were discussed.

   - Copyright negotiations
   - Bill C60 (use of digital material on the internet)
   - Anticipated announcement regarding Trustee honorarium
   - Escalating price of gasoline
   - OPSBA Trustee Handbook which is available on OPSBA's website
   - Bill 123 (Transparency in Public Meetings)

   Trustee Love noted that the Central West Meeting will be held at the Hamilton/Wentworth School Board Office on October 29, 2005. The 2006 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 8 - 11. Trustee Love indicated that a handout on successful learning is available in the Trustees' lounge. Trustee Love added that OPSBA's Fast Reports are available online. Trustee Hall asked that the Director's Office makes copies of the Fast Reports available to Trustees as some may not have internet access.

   Student Trustee, Andrew Ling, asked if Bill C60 affects students. Trustee Love indicated that it affects teacher or any other agency that may wish to download from the internet and it does not directly affect students. OPSBA is reviewing this issue more closely.

2. **Correspondence from Adventure Driver Training Regarding Advertising in Schools**

   Chair, Dalt Clark, reported that he has been in contact with the writer of the letter for more than a year and received the correspondence regarding the Board's policy of advertising in schools. Superintendent, George Thomas, reported that he surveyed all secondary schools on their practice of approving advertising by driving schools. It was reported that all schools follow the Board's Policy and advertise the services of Apex Driving Academy who provide a variable rate of return and contribute to a scholarship or bursary at each school. A variety of responses were made to the question about advertising other driving academies, which included other driving academies were not able to match the rate of return,
NEW BUSINESS - continued

2. Correspondence from Adventure Driver Training Regarding Advertising in Schools

schools were not contacted by other providers, or no response by providers in a timely fashion to the school's invitation to apply. The issue was also discussed at a Senior Administration meeting and Principals indicated their compliance with Board Policy and expressed their continued willingness to consider other providers.

A discussion followed on whether or not there was miscommunication with the driving academy and the school or whether or not there was an implied agreement for Adventure Driver Training to advertise its services at the school.

It was agreed that Superintendent, George Thomas, will contact the school for additional information and the Board's actions with respect to Adventure Driver Training will be guided by further input from staff at the school. It was also agreed that Chair, Dalt Clark, and Superintendent, George Thomas, will draft a letter in response clarifying the Board's advertising policy and procedures with respect to providers of driver training.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Information For and By Board Members and Staff

(a) Trustee, Robert Lewis, provided a verbal report of the Education Foundation of Niagara's Directors Meeting, Annual General Meeting, and Meeting to Elect the Executive held on Wednesday, September 21, 2005. Trustee Lewis indicated it was agreed that a verbal report will be made to the Board immediately following the Foundation's meetings and that Minutes will be made available to Trustees once approved at the next meeting two months later. Trustee Lewis reported that founding members, Bill Miller and Bruce Russell have resigned and new members Bill Mozina and Randy Daly were welcomed. The Education Foundation of Niagara currently has nine Directors and is working to expand membership to the community which will include payment of membership fees. Current Trustee Directors are Gary Atamanyk, Lora Campbell, Liz Fulford, Robert Lewis, and Kevin Maves, with community Directors Randy Daly, John Davis, Ron Martens, and Bill Mozina. It is intended there will be five community Directors and four Trustee Directors. The new Executive is Randy Daly (President), Liz Fulford (Secretary), John Davis (Treasurer), and Robert Lewis (Chair). The next Annual General Meeting will be held in May 2006.

(b) Student Trustee, April Bannerman, informed the Board that the Trustee / Student Council Retreat and Workshop will be held at Woodend on Wednesday, October 5th, 2005. Trustees were invited to attend.
October Schedule of Meetings - Working Copy

The following additions were made to October Schedule of Meetings:

- **Wednesday, October 5**
  - Trustee / Student Council Conference (at Woodend)

- **Tuesday, October 11** 8:30 a.m.
  - Multi-Workplace Joint Health and Safety Committee

- **Saturday, October 22** 8:00 a.m.
  - School Council Conference (Partners in Education)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Robert Lewis
Seconded by Barb Ness

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.