



**THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA**

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

November 24, 2015

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Sue Barnett (Chair), Dale Robinson (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Ajandi, Helga Campbell, Lora Campbell, Diane Chase, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves, Dave Schaubel

Student Trustees: Justin Dubé and Katelynn Hilborn

Regrets: Jonathan Fast

Officials: Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Paula MacKinnon, Helen McGregor, Jim Morgan, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, JoAnna Roberto, Stacy Veld, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Kim Yielding, Karen Bellamy, Cheryl Bujacz

Recording Secretary: Christina Dero

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Barnett called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Barnett noted the absence of Trustee Fast.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

**Moved by Diane Chase
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole (Private Session).”

CARRIED

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Helga Campbell**

“That the Board do now return to open meeting.”

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:28 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by Student Trustee Hilborn.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Maves opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

Chair Barnett welcomed staff, parents, and students from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, who were in the gallery.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

**Moved by Linda Crouch
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of Board Minutes

**Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi**

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated November 10, 2015, be confirmed as submitted.”

CARRIED

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued**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 Dale Robinson
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“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****Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective:****(a) Director’s Update to Trustees****i. 8th Annual Cop Shop Event**

Community Care has partnered with Niagara Regional Police Services and the Pen Centre for the 8th annual Cop Shop Event. DSBN students will participate in this nationwide community initiative that provides children a unique opportunity to take part in a Christmas shopping spree while spending time in a positive way with local police officers.

ii. Fort Erie Secondary School Hosts Grade 8 Students

Fort Erie Secondary School hosted grade 8 students from their feeder schools last week. Students had an exciting day exploring the school, cooking, learning about First Nations, Métis and Inuit programming, and creating their own beach chairs.

iii. DSBN Monologue Competition

The 2015 DSBN Monologue Competition challenges students from DSBN schools to prepare a 1-3 minute monologue from a published dramatic text. Working in partnership with the Shaw Festival, students receive direct feedback from professionals, who help the students hone their auditioning skills. This event challenges theatre

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Director's Update to Trustees**

professionals, teachers and students to work together, promoting creative thinking skills in a collaborative, co-operative environment.

Congratulations to this year's winner, Noah Lagerstrom from Laura Secord Secondary School, and Mackenna Louks from Welland Centennial Secondary School who placed second.

iv. DSBN Pink Shirt Day Every Day

DSBN schools kicked off the *DSBN Pink Shirt Day Every Day* campaign last week. A photo was shown of Orchard Park Public School students during a school assembly, all wearing pink shirts.

v. Sir Winston Churchill Bulldog Cross Country Team

Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School sent 24 athletes to compete at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) meet in Collingwood on November 7, 2015. At this year's OFSAA competition, the Bulldogs' midget girls finished tied for 5th, the midget boys' team won a bronze medallion, and the senior boys' team won a silver medallion. The boys' team was 2nd overall in Ontario.

A short video was shown highlighting the Bulldog cross country team, student experiences, and the positive effects of being part of the team.

(b) Recognition of Benny Ralston, Volunteer Cross Country Running Coach, Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Director Hoshizaki recognized former two time OFSAA cross country champion, Benny Ralston for 20 years of dedicated service as a volunteer at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School. Coach Ralston creates a culture of team success through encouragement, shared leadership, and inclusion. He takes a personal interest in his runners and differentiates their training. Benny Ralston spends countless hours building up students and speaking to parents about their child's progress.

Director Hoshizaki presented Benny Ralston with a token of the Board's appreciation for his extraordinary contributions to students.

Trustee Ajandi congratulated Benny Ralston and thanked him for his passion and commitment. Trustee Ajandi thanked the students in attendance for their leadership, dedication and commitment to their sport.

2. Educational Showcases

There was no educational showcase.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There was were no student achievement reports.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCOUNTS

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1637 to 1655, for the month of October 2015, totalling \$17,719,089.48 be received.”

CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Helga Campbell

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated November 11, 2015 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that 11 cases were reviewed by the Committee and strategies were developed for the students' success.

OLD BUSINESS – continued

3. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee, dated November 12, 2015 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Ajandi provided a brief summary of the report.

4. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated November 18, 2015 be received”; and

“That staff be authorized to renovate and repair the St. Johns Outdoor Studies Centre for opening by September 2016, to be funded by Major Capital accumulated surplus”; and

“That the International Education 2014-15 Financial Report be received and that \$212,000 be allocated to support the Board’s strategic initiatives as directed by the Finance Committee”; and

“That the Schedule of Accumulated Surplus for the year ended August 31, 2015, be approved”; and

“That Policy B-06 *Purchasing Cards (P-Cards)* be approved, as amended, and adopted”; and

“That Policy B-01 *Purchasing of Goods and Services* be approved, as amended, and adopted”; and

“That Policy F-01 *Selection of Architect and Engineers for Capital Projects* be rescinded.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves provided a summary of the report and recommended motions.

OLD BUSINESS – continued

5. REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the report of the Audit Committee dated November 23, 2015 be received;” and

“That the 2014-15 Annual Report of the Audit Committee to the Ministry of Education be approved.”

CARRIED

Trustees were provided a handout of the Audit Committee meeting minutes and recommended motions prior to the Board meeting.

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions asked of and by Board members.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Organization Meeting of the Board

The Organization Meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in accordance with Board By-Law F-6.

In response to a question, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, clarified procedures for the Organization Meeting.

In response to a question, Brenda Stokes Verworn, Board Lawyer, clarified the definition of what a proxy was and stated that she would conduct more research, prior to the Organization meeting, as to whether or not it would be legal for a trustee who was going to be absent to file a proxy as current DSBN Bylaws are silent on the issue of proxies.

Director Hoshizaki indicated that Trustees would be notified of those nominated, after the December 8, 2015 12:00 noon deadline has passed.

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Staff Reports

There were no staff reports.

2. Trustee Information Session

Trustees took part in an information session about Specialist High Skills Majors prior to the Board Meeting.

3. Correspondence and Communication

There was no correspondence and communication.

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- (a) Trustee Schaubel reported attending the Grand Re-Opening of the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre at Peace Bridge Public School.
- (b) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending the Stamford Collegiate Secondary School Remembrance Day ceremony where students performed their play, Invisible Wounds, with the author in the audience. Student Trustee Hilborn took part in the performance.
- (c) Trustee Maves reported attending the opening of the A.N. Myer Secondary School Learning Commons.
- (d) Trustee Maves reported attending the A.N. Myer Trivia Night on November 20, 2015.
- (e) Trustee Maves reported attending the 19th Annual Westlane Honor Roll Banquet.
- (f) Trustee Chase reported attending the burial of the Gainsborough Public School time capsule.
- (g) Trustee Chase reported attending Parent Council meetings at both College Street Public School and W.E. Brown Public School.
- (h) Trustee Chase reported that she will take part in the Smithville Santa Claus parade on November 28, 2015 by riding on the College Street Public School float.
- (i) Vice-Chair Robinson reported that all Thorold schools will be participating in the Santa Claus parade this weekend.
- (j) Vice-Chair Robinson reported that the Thorold Secondary School Craft Show took place on November 21 and 22, 2015.

Further information on events and news happening within the Board can be found at www.dsbns.org and/or on the schools' websites.

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

Trustee Ajandi reported that the Public Education Symposium will be held January 28-30, 2016.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at www.opsba.org.

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of December 2015 meetings was provided.

The calendar of January 2016 meetings was provided.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Diane Chase

Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SUE BARNETT, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer