



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

**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**January 12, 2016**

6:15 – 7:00 p.m. (Private Session)

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. (Public Session)

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Student Trustees:** Justin Dubé and Katelynn Hilborn

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

**Regrets:** John Dickson and Wesley Hahn

**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 Robinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Robinson welcomed students, staff, and parents from Edith Cavell, Central, and Jeanne Sauvé Public Schools who were in the gallery.

**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 Kevin Maves**

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

**CARRIED**

**Moved by Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Helga Campbell**

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:25 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Parnall Public School choir, via video.

**D. REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Schaubel opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

**E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

**“That the Agenda be adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. Approval of Board Minutes**

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

**“That the Minutes of the Organization Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 8, 2015, be confirmed as submitted”; and**

**BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued**

**“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 8, 2015 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 Diane Chase  
Seconded by Kevin Maves**

**“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) Recognition of The Lunch Angels, Volunteers, Edith Cavell Public School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized The Lunch Angels, a group of dedicated volunteers who work hard to serve the Edith Cavell Public School community each week.

This group of volunteers delivers over 75 handmade bagged lunches to Edith Cavell students once a week to ensure they have a healthy and hearty lunch at least once a week. They reached out to Public Health and completed food handling safety courses, have had their prep kitchen inspected to meet health regulations, and have recruited a number of members of their own community to support their mission.

Recently, the Lunch Angels have come into the school to play co-operative games with the students and have brought in a motivational speaker to speak with the students and encourage them to reach for their goals.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Recognition of The Lunch Angels, Volunteers, Edith Cavell Public School**

Director Hoshizaki presented representatives of The Lunch Angels with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to students.

Trustee Ajandi thanked the group for the generosity that they show to DSBN staff and students.

**(b) Director's Update to Trustees****i. Be a Voice**

Students in Niagara were asked to *Be a Voice for Affordable Housing* and speak up on the issues of affordable housing and homelessness in Niagara. The contest challenged students to use their creativity and raise awareness by preparing a submission.

DSBN was one of many partners in this regional initiative and several of our students and schools won awards for their submissions. DSBN Student Trustees Katelynn Hilborn and Justin Dubé were asked to form part of the judging panel.

Congratulations to all students and schools that were recognized with awards.

**ii. Skates for Kids**

In 2009, PenFinancial Credit Union launched a *Skates for Kids program* and since, have provided thousands of skates and helmets for students at schools throughout the region.

This year, Dewitt Carter and Edith Cavell Public Schools will be the lucky recipients of skates and helmets. At the end of January, the skates that have been donated at PenFinancial branches and Front Row Sports stores will be delivered to the students who will learn to use them at their local arena. Financial donations are also collected to help cover the cost of providing students with new helmets.

**iii. The Gift of Music**

Thank you to the Niagara Conservatory of Music, who donated thousands of dollars' worth of musical instruments to three DSBN schools. Through their *Music Gives Movement* program, a dozen ukuleles, an acoustic guitar and various percussion instruments were given to Lincoln Centennial, Connaught and Greendale Public Schools.

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**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****iv. Welcome to Kindergarten at the DSBN!**

DSBN is excited to invite and welcome parents and their children to attend DSBN's Kindergarten Open Houses scheduled for January 28, 2016, from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. at elementary schools across the Board.

Parents and children will be able to see the classroom, meet the staff, and receive a gift bag full of fun learning resources. This year, parents will receive a book called Barkley's First Day, which was written and produced by DSBN's Communications and Printing Services departments.

School staff will be available to help parents register their child and to help their Kindergarten get ready for their first day of school at the DSBN.

**v. Denim, Diamonds, and Diplomas Fundraiser**

The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society will hold a Denim, Diamonds, and Diplomas Fundraiser on February 20, 2016 at Club Roma on behalf of the Education Foundation of Niagara. The fundraiser is designed to establish bursaries for graduating students from DSBN Academy.

**2. Educational Showcases****a) Hour of Code**

Superintendent McGregor presented the showcase which highlighted DSBN's involvement in the Hour of Code, and introduced Rosemary Jellinck, Student Achievement Leader IT4 Learning.

Rosemary Jellinck introduced Chad Whittington, IT4 Learning Consultant and Kyle Kitchen, Support Teacher IT4 Learning, who helped to organize the event and encouraged schools to take part. Rosemary Jellinck explained that the Hour of Code is a global movement which promotes the use of computational thinking and logic and is designed to build awareness about the importance of coding for students and educators. IT4 Learning and iHub promoted a Board-wide Code-a-Thon in December where students across the DSBN collectively spent 760,000 minutes coding.

A short video was shown highlighting the Hour of Code activities at Prince Philip Public School in Niagara Falls which was organized by two students.

Central Public School students made a bilingual presentation highlighting their coding event which was called C3 (Central Celebrates Coding). The presentation described types of coding activities, what is involved in coding, skills that are learned during coding, and also provided examples of how coding is used in everyday life.

Central Public School students thanked all involved for their support and guidance with the program.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Hour of Code**

Superintendent McGregor thanked the students for demonstrating the importance of coding.

**b) Presentation of the Norah Morgan Award to Lori Moccio, teacher at Jeanne Sauvé French Immersion Public School**

Superintendent Reimer Friesen introduced the showcase that highlighted the presentation of the Norah Morgan Award which was established by Carousel Players and celebrates the contributions and achievements of elementary school teachers who have made a strong contribution to the arts in Niagara region schools.

Superintendent Reimer Friesen introduced Dr. Debra McLauchlan, Chair of the Carousel Players Board of Directors, Jessica Carmichael, Carousel's Artistic Director, Candi Sitko, Principal of Jeanne Sauvé French Immersion Public School, and Lori Moccio, this year's recipient of the Norah Morgan Award.

Dr. Debra McLauchlan spoke highly of Norah Morgan and her contributions to students through the arts.

Candi Sitko spoke to Lori Moccio's outstanding achievements and contributions to her school, the community, and the arts.

Dr. Debra McLauchlan presented Lori Moccio with the Norah Morgan Award.

Jeanne Sauvé French Immersion Public School will receive a free performance of the Carousel Players play, Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin on April 25, 2016.

Chair Robinson thanked Lori Moccio for her efforts and the joy that she brings to teaching and learning.

**G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**

There 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 Jonathan Fast  
Seconded by Helga Campbell**

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1656 to 1672, for the month of November 2015, totalling \$16,809,072.72 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. REPORT OF THE AD HOC STRATEGIC PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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

**“That the report of the Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Advisory Committee dated December 8, 2015 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Helga Campbell provided a summary of the Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Advisory Committee meeting and gave an overview of the DSNB Strategic Plan process that took place in 2005/06 and the review in 2009/10. Trustee Helga Campbell explained that former Director of Education Bill Tucker, will facilitate the Strategic Plan renewal process and Thoughtexchange will be used to obtain feedback from staff, students, trustees, the community and all stakeholders.

**3. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott  
Seconded by Sue Barnett**

**“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated December 9, 2015 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that 14 cases were reviewed by the committee and strategies were developed for students' success

**OLD BUSINESS – continued****4. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi  
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated December 10, 2015 be received.”

**CARRIED**

Chair Robinson gave a brief overview of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting and highlighted the positive impact of the Student Voice portion of the meeting, where a student tells the committee about the challenges they are facing and how the supports they are receiving help them to succeed.

**K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no questions asked of or by Board members.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS****1. Staff Reports****a) West Pelham Modified Accommodation Review**

Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Board receives the West Pelham Modified Accommodation Review Final Staff Report.”

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Courtois provided a summary and key aspects of the Final Staff Report for the West Pelham Modified Accommodation Review, which outlines in detail, the factors leading to the staff recommended option.



**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued****West Pelham Modified Accommodation Review**

The recommended accommodation option is to close Pelham Centre Public School for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2017, and redirect students to the E. W. Farr Memorial Public School site.

Superintendent Courtois outlined the rationale for the recommendation and the implementation process should Trustees approve the recommendation. The public consultation period ends after public delegations are received at the January 26, 2016 Board Meeting. Following the delegations an addendum to the Final Staff Report, that summarizes additional input received, will be prepared and presented at the February 23, 2016 Board Meeting for Trustees' decision.

**b) South Central St. Catharines Modified Accommodation Review**

**Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Kevin Maves**

**“That the Board receives the South Central St. Catharines Modified Accommodation Review Final Staff Report.”**

**CARRIED**

Superintendent Courtois provided a summary and key aspects of the Final Staff Report for the South Central St. Catharines Modified Accommodation Review, which outlines in detail, the factors leading to the staff recommended option.

The recommended accommodation option is to close Glen Ridge Public School for instructional purposes as of June 30, 2016, and redirect students to Oakridge Public School. The school catchment area boundaries would be modified accordingly.

Superintendent Courtois outlined rationale for the recommendation and the implementation process should Trustees approve the recommendation. The public consultation period ends after public delegations are received at the January 26, 2016 Board Meeting. Following the delegations an addendum to the Final Staff Report, that summarizes additional input received, will be prepared and presented at the February 23, 2016 Board Meeting for Trustees' decision.

In response to a question, Superintendent Courtois clarified for Trustees that that the DSBN has not received any written comments from the City of St. Catharines or Niagara Region since the date of the report.

Trustee Helga Campbell commented that the report was very detailed and it was helpful to see a clear outline of all options that have been considered.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**

Chair Robinson thanked Superintendent Courtois and the Senior Team for their hard work on this report.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

Prior to the Board Meeting Trustees attended an information session about Supervised Alternative Learning.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

There was no correspondence or communication.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

(a) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending the Simcoe Street Public School Christmas concert.

(b) Trustee Barnett reported attending an annual fundraising concert performed by retired DSBN staff who volunteer their time to raise funds for lunch programs at select DSBN schools.

Further information on events and news happening within the Board can be found at [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org) and/or on the schools' websites.

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

Trustee Ajandi reported that OPSBA is working on a draft copy of a Code of Ethics which will be sent for Trustee review. Trustee Ajandi requested that any feedback be forwarded to her by the end of the week.

Trustee Ajandi reported that nominations are now being accepted for the OPSBA Awards Program.

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

Chair Robinson noted that Trustee Crouch will not be able to continue as the OPSBA Alternate representative for the Board.

By show of hands, Trustees agreed that Vice-Chair Chase will assume the role of OPSBA Alternate representative for the DSBN.

Information published by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association is available at [www.opsba.org](http://www.opsba.org).

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**

**6. Future Meetings**

**The calendar of January 2016 meetings was provided.**

A Program & Planning Committee meeting has been scheduled for January 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

**The calendar of February 2016 meetings was provided.**

The Program & Planning Committee scheduled for February 2, 2016 has been cancelled.

A Program & Planning Committee meeting has been scheduled for February 23, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

The Program & Planning Committee scheduled for March 1, 2016 has been cancelled.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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**DALE ROBINSON**, Chair

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**WARREN HOSHIZAKI**, Director of Education  
and Secretary/Treasurer