



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

June 27, 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, 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

Regrets: Student Trustee Justin Dubé

Recording Secretary: Christina Dero

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair Robinson opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee people.

2. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

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

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued**Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent**

Chair Robinson noted the absence of Student Trustee Dubé.

Chair Robinson recognized that this would be the last Board meeting for Student Trustee Hilborn. Chair Robinson thanked Student Trustee Hillborn for an outstanding year and wished her all the best in the Nursing program at Brock University in September.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Helga Campbell

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

CARRIED

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:31 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the McKay Public School and Port Colborne High School choirs, via video.

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in honour of Mackenzie Wilks-Duffy, William Hamilton Merritt student who recently passed away.

Chair Robinson noted that Trustees are wearing T-shirts that reflect DSBN’s new Strategic Plan.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Crouch opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Dave Schaubel
Seconded by Sue Barnett

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Moved by Lora Campbell
Seconded by Linda Crouch

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated May 24, 2016 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****(a) Director’s Report and Recognition****i. DSBN Special Olympics**

DSBN’s annual Special Olympics event took place on June 14, 2016, bringing together DSBN students who displayed their talents, met new friends and experienced success in a number of athletic contests. Over 600 athletes participated in events

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Director’s Report and Recognition****DSBN Special Olympics**

including long jump, standing long jump, ball throw, shot put, noodle throw, frisbee throw, beanbag toss, 10, 25, 50 and 100 m races and team relay races.

Thank you Andy Dermatas, to the many students who participated in the events, and the students, teachers and parent volunteers who helped make it a fun and meaningful day that celebrated DSBN special education students’ strengths and abilities.

ii. Minister of Education’s Student Advisory Council (MSAC)

Congratulations to Harroop Ahuja at Westlane Secondary School and Karling Luciani at Welland Centennial Secondary School who have been selected to serve on the 2016-17 Minister’s Advisory Council.

Over 450 applications were received by the Minister’s office, of which, 60 were selected to participate. Students who serve on the council have many responsibilities and will meet twice with the Minister of Education over the coming school year. Council members are invited to participate in student forums, events or conferences to discuss student-related issues. They will provide the ministry with ongoing student perspectives, recommendations and consultations on the Ministry of Education’s policies, programs and practices.

iii. Fair Trade at McKay Public School

Congratulations to McKay Public School for being the first Fair Trade designated school in Ontario!

McKay Public School has created a Fair Trade culture at the school through increased visibility of information, classroom lessons, and the sale of Fair Trade bananas and baked goods at the school.

A ceremony officially designating McKay Public School a Fair Trade School took place on June 22, 2016. Guests at the celebration, including Trustee Schaubel, were invited to observe Fair Trade learning in action after the ceremony and were also treated to Fair Trade refreshments and snacks.

Director Hoshizaki added that promoting fair trade in the DSBN is a great way for schools to take on social responsibility.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Director's Report and Recognition****iv. Quaker Road Public School Celebrates Platinum Eco Status**

On June 16, 2016, Quaker Road Public School celebrated their newly designated Platinum Eco Status.

Quaker Road Public School has 40 students on the Eco Team and 30 of these students have weekly recycling or compost jobs. Quaker Road Public School has a brand new pergola in its outdoor classroom (built by parents and the school principal), along with two new native species gardens. Students are encouraged to be good citizens of the Earth as they show respect for all animals and plants. Older students mentor younger ones and families are also involved through the Battery Busters Campaign and Plastic Bag Challenge.

v. Routes Program

On June 20, 2016, the Routes Program celebration was held at Crossroads Public School. Twelve secondary age students successfully attained high school credits this year, while also working at a full time job.

The students and their families expressed appreciation for the program which is based at their familiar elementary school. The program is culturally sensitive, and designed to be flexible for families who travel throughout the year.

2. Educational Showcases**a) Joan Crowe Award**

Superintendent Dickson introduced the showcase which recognized Yoko Hurst as the recipient of the 2015/16 Joan Crowe Award.

Superintendent Dickson added that the award is given annually to an Educational Assistant or Child Care Worker at the DSBN who demonstrates outstanding commitment to their profession, the students they serve, and who exemplifies the qualities of Joan Crowe, a former Educational Assistant with the District School Board of Niagara.

Superintendent Dickson introduced Yoko Hurst and provided an overview of her accomplishments and experience in supporting students.

Deb Dennis, daughter of Joan Crowe, presented Yoko Hurst with the 2015/16 Joan Crowe Award.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There was no student achievement report.

H. DELEGATIONS

Kevin Ker presented on behalf of Concerned Citizens of Pelham with respect to the naming of the West Pelham Elementary School.

Kevin Ker identified areas in DSBN Policy A-09 – Naming/Renaming of Schools where the Concerned Citizens of Pelham feel that the name Wellington Heights does not immediately meet the naming criteria.

On behalf of Concerned Citizens of Pelham, Kevin Ker asked Trustees to reconsider the name Wellington Heights, to reopen the naming process, and be inclusive of the community to a greater degree before establishing a name.

In response to a question by a Trustee, Kevin Ker clarified that he was not a member of the Naming Committee. Kevin Ker added that there was not an opportunity for the community to be a part of the committee.

Superintendent Hahn clarified for Trustees that community members were sought out to be a part of the Naming Committee and all any who expressed interest were welcomed.

In response to a question by a Trustee, Kevin Ker clarified that the school property is not close in proximity to where the Fort was proposed, and that in doing research it is difficult to find information about Wellington Heights.

In response to a question by a Trustee, Kevin Ker described the Duke of Wellington's involvement in the British Army and the reputation that surrounded him.

Trustee Ajandi called a Motion for Immediate Consideration.

**Moved by Jennifer Ajandi
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

“That the new renovated/expanded Public School in West Pelham not be named Wellington Heights Public School, effective May 25, 2016.

Trustee Ajandi	In Favour	Trustee Fast	Opposed
Trustee Barnett	Opposed	Trustee Keddy Scott	Opposed
Trustee Helga Campbell	Opposed	Trustee Maves	Opposed
Trustee Lora Campbell	Opposed	Chair Robinson	Opposed
Vice Chair Chase	Opposed	Trustee Schaubel	Opposed
Trustee Crouch	In Favour		

NOT CARRIED

I. BOARD RECESS

A Board recess was taken at 7:42p.m.

The Board meeting resumed at 7:54p.m.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCOUNTS

**Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Kevin Maves**

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1743 to 1756, for the month of May, 2016 totalling \$19,746,296.93 be received.”

CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Moved by Jennifer Ajandi
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott**

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated June 9, 2016 be received.”

CARRIED

Chair Robinson provided a brief summary of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which included a student voice presentation from a St. Catharines Collegiate Secondary School student and a Special Education funding model report from Superintendent Dickson.

3. REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

“That the report of the Audit Committee dated June 13, 2016, be received as information; and

That KPMG be appointed external auditors for the District School Board of Niagara for a one-year term commencing September 1, 2016.”

CARRIED

Trustee Barnett provided a brief summary of the report and recommended motion. Trustee Barnett added that the committee is pleased to be going forward with KPMG.

OLD BUSINESS – continued**4. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Moved by Kevin Maves
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated June 15, 2016 be received;
and

That the low bid received from Base Mechanical, in the amount of \$599,384 (plus HST) be accepted and a contract awarded for the Grapeview Public School Heat Pump and Plant Upgrade Project; and

That the low bid received from Regional Mechanical, in the amount of \$565,000 (plus HST), be accepted and a contract awarded for the Rooftop Equipment Replacement Project at Governor Simcoe Secondary School; and

That staff be directed to enter into a one-year contract with Flexo Products Limited, for the provision of custodial supplies and services, effective to June 12, 2017, with the option to renew for an additional one-year period at the discretion of the DSBN; and

That Borrowing Resolution 2016-01, authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$2,517,020 for the short-term financing of Ministry funded capital projects, pursuant to the provisions of section 243(1) of the Education Act, be approved; and

That authority be delegated to the Director of Education and the Superintendent of Business Services jointly to approve the award of contracts and property matters in July and August that would otherwise require Finance Committee, Property Disposal Committee and Board approval, and report such approvals at the September 2016 Finance Committee and Property Disposal Committee meetings; and

That the Interim Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2016, be received; and

That the 2016-17 Budget include

\$50,000 to support the School-Based Mental Health Liaison Teacher Initiative
\$50,000 for Primary/Junior/Intermediate Math Additional Qualification Courses
\$100,000 to support the DreamBox Interactive Math Computer Program
\$50,000 to support the Curb Appeal Initiative
\$43,000 for 1.0 FTE Field Technician to support St. John’s Outdoor Studies Centre
\$86,000 for 2.0 FTE Educational Assistants to support the RISE programs
\$430,000 for 10.0 FTE Educational Assistants to support students in need
\$200,000 for 2.0 FTE Social Workers to support elementary mental health needs; and

OLD BUSINESS – continued**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

That the 2016-17 Revenue and Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$439,161,861 be approved and the estimate forms be submitted to the Ministry of Education.”

CARRIED

Trustee Maves provided a summary of the motions, adding that the DSBN is putting resources back into the system for students. Trustee Maves commended Superintendent Veld, the Financial Services Department, and the Senior Team for their hard work.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent Veld clarified that the Curb Appeal initiative is a program where post-secondary students are hired over the summer months to work on gardens and walkways at schools in order to enhance the welcoming feeling for students and community members who use the space.

Director Hoshizaki announced that Superintendent Veld would take the role of Treasurer of the Board for the upcoming school year and congratulated her for the accomplishment.

5. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi**

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated June 16, 2016 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that 81 cases were reviewed by the committee during the 2015/16 school year.

Trustee Barnett added that of the 81 cases, 32 cases were renewed, 2 students have graduated from DSBN, 7 students have transitioned into full-time learning, and the remaining students have either turned 18 or have been directed to an alternative learning plan.

6. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

“That the report of the Policy Committee dated June 21, 2016 be received; and

OLD BUSINESS – continued

That Policy A-01: Student Trustees on Board be approved as received and adopted; and

That Policy D-07: Third Party Provision of Student Support Services be approved as received and adopted; and

That Policy E-03: Health and Safety be approved as amended and adopted; and

That Policy E-15: Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention be approved as amended and adopted; and

That Policy F-05: Playspace Equipment be approved as amended and adopted; and

That Policy G-10: Use of Identification Badges be approved as received and adopted.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that 6 policies were reviewed and all were passed.

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**

There was no staff report.

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee information session.

3. Correspondence and Communication

- a) Chair Robinson noted a change to the Trustee committee assignments for September 2016-2018.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- a) Trustee Keddy Scott thanked Superintendent Pisek, Principal Simon Hancox, and the Curb Appeal Team for their work to make the new play area at Senator Gibson Public School welcoming for kids and parents.
- b) Trustee Keddy Scott reported attending the “Bugz” performance at Twenty Valley Public School where over 400 people were in attendance.
- c) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that Twenty Valley Public School and College Street Public School raised over \$13,000 for the ALS Society.
- d) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that the grade 1/2 class at Nelles Public School have become published illustrators thanks to *Write to Give*.
- e) Student Trustee Hilborn thanked Trustees for the opportunities given to her throughout the year and for the support that they gave her and the Student Trustee Senate initiatives.
- f) Trustee Schaubel commended McKay Public School for receiving Fair Trade designation.
- g) Trustee Helga Campbell reported that Cherrywood Public School, River View Public School, Stamford Collegiate, and A.N. Myer Secondary School received Schools in Bloom Awards.
- h) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending the celebration of the new atrium and entrance at Stamford Collegiate Secondary School.
- i) Trustee Helga Campbell reported that she participated in Education Foundation of Niagara Golf Tournament.
- j) Trustee Helga Campbell reported that she recently presented at the City of Niagara Falls Council meeting, adding that it is good for the public to know how the Board functions.
- k) Trustee Ajandi thanked Superintendent Reimer Friesen for arranging a tour of Harriet Tubman Public School for Trustees.
- l) Trustee Barnett stressed the importance of the work that the Education Foundation of Niagara does.
- m) Chair Robinson provided a reminder that the Education Foundation of Niagara offices have moved to the back of the St. Catharines Collegiate building.

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

Vice Chair Chase attended OPSBA Annual General Meeting held on June 9-12, 2016.

Vice Chair Chase reported attendees received updates with respect to Policy Development, Education Program, Labour Relations, Legislative, Early Years, Community Hubs, EQAO and the First Nations Council

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued**Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report**

David Usher provided a keynote address on how to bring creativity, innovation and inspiration to the work that you do, and he shared his belief that creativity is a learnable skill that anyone can master.

Other presentation topics included Trustee code of conducts, municipal elections and private/in-camera meetings, and deadlines for financial reporting.

Vice Chair Chase added her presentation on the partnership with Harriet Tubman Public School and the City of St. Catharines was well received.

The Annual Report is available on the OPSBA website and is highlighted in the letter which was recently sent to all trustees by OPSBA.

Upcoming meetings include:

Regional Meeting: November 5, 2016

Public Education Symposium: January 19-21, 2017

Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Conference: TBD

Annual General Meeting: June 8-11, 2017

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of September 2016 was provided.

Trustee Retreat - August 30, 2016 at the Scotiabank Convention Centre

Trustee Barnett explained that there is a conflict with the Finance Committee meeting and Education Foundation of Niagara meeting scheduled on September 21, 2016. Superintendent Veld advised that she will speak to the chair of the committee and make the adjustment.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Dave Schaubel

Seconded by Katelynn Hilborn

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

DALE ROBINSON, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer