



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

BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE

March 8, 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, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves, Dale Robinson (Chair)

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: Trustee Jonathan Fast and Trustee Dave Schaubel

Recording Secretary: Christina Dero

Technical Support: Linda Gonschior and Dave Wakeling

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

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

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.

Chair Robinson welcomed students, staff, and parents from Gordon Public School and Fort Erie Secondary School who were in the gallery.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued

Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Robinson noted the absence of Trustee Schaubel and Trustee Fast.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott

Seconded by Sue Barnett

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

CARRIED

Moved by Sue Barnett

Seconded by Lora Campbell

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The Board returned to the Committee of the Whole (Private Session) at 9:02 p.m.

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi

Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole.”

CARRIED

Moved by Sue Barnett

Seconded by Linda Crouch

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

CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 9:07 p.m.

C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”

The Board stood as “O Canada” was performed by the Prince Philip Public School (Niagara Falls) choir, via video.

SINGING OF “O CANADA” – continued

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in honour of Governor Simcoe Secondary School student Gibson Riddick, who recently passed away.

D. REFLECTIVE READING

Trustee Ajandi opened the meeting with a reflective reading.

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

Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Lora Campbell

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated February 23, 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

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD – continued**Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole (Private Session)**

Chair Robinson reported that in the Committee of the Whole private session the District School Board of Niagara ratified the tentative September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2017, Collective Agreement with the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel (Niagara Chapter).

Chair Robinson added that Board staff will proceed with issuing a Request for Proposal (for sale by tender) for the disposal of Maywood and Memorial Public Schools.

Chair Robinson commended the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel (APSSP) and the DSBN negotiations team, and congratulated them on a timely outcome for DSBN students.

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS**1. Director's Report and Recognition****Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective:****(a) Recognition of Becky Parton, Educational Assistant, and Swaizie Lauzon, Student, Fort Erie Secondary School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Becky Parton and Swaizie Lauzon for their outstanding contributions at Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS).

Becky Parton has been an EA for 28 years, 18 of which have been in her home town, at Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS). Swaizie Lauzon is a FESS student in the school's Specialized School to Community (SSTC) program.

For the past three years these women have overseen the school's Breakfast Club, serving approximately 40 hungry learners each morning. The work that goes into this club represents approximately 300 hours each year, with 8 hours per week consumed with overseeing the Breakfast Club, shopping, and cleaning up before and after. Under Becky and Swaizie's guidance, the rest of the SSTC program also assists.

For the Breakfast Club, Becky ensures that the students and staff within the SSTC program take into consideration nutritional aspects of healthy eating, coordination of the club, leadership, literacy and numeracy in creating the shopping lists, working within the community, bagging groceries, life skills, and contributing to society by helping others.

Swaizie was recently sponsored by the Grocery Foundation and Toonies for Tummies which brought communities together to highlight awareness on

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Recognition of Becky Parton, Educational Assistant, and Swaizie Lauzon, Student, Fort Erie Secondary School**

how to bring healthy eating to student nutrition programs. Swaizie was one of 11 students chosen from within the Province of Ontario. Becky accompanied her to this conference in Toronto.

Swaizie has been integrated into the school's culinary program where she will work toward achieving this credit. As well, recently she participated in the DSBN Skills Competition for baking. Swaizie, along with Becky, volunteers her time monthly with Food for Soul at St. Paul's Church. In addition, she is a member of the talented team of students that oversee the Pomegranate Restaurant at FESS, a student run restaurant catering to patrons every Wednesday evening. Swaizie has also assisted with various catering events throughout the Town of Fort Erie such as the Chamber of Commerce and BEC functions. Through her educational pathway, Swaizie plans to become a personal support worker.

Director Hoshizaki presented Becky Parton and Swaizie Lauzon with a token of the Board's appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to students.

(b) Director's Update to Trustees**i. Sears Drama Festival**

Congratulations to Governor Simcoe Secondary School and Stamford Collegiate Secondary School for being selected to represent the Niagara Region at the 70th Annual Southwestern Ontario Regional Drama Festival in Windsor, Ontario during the week of April 18th-23rd, 2016.

Governor Simcoe presented a terrific interpretation of Dwayne Craft's absurd comedy, *Ridiculous by Proxy*. In addition to Outstanding Production, Governor Simcoe was also awarded the Brock University Drama Award for the Best Experimental Play. Special congratulations go to the Puppeteers, the Ensemble, Victor Papaiz and Kasey Brown, for earning Awards of Merit and Excellence for their performances in the play.

Stamford Collegiate Secondary School presented a post-modern adaptation of the Lizzie Borden tale, called *Lizzie*. In addition to their Outstanding Production Award, Stamford Collegiate also received the Best Visuals Award and the Best New Play Award. Extra congratulations go to Austin Kills-Enemy, Jayde Kocsis and Aaron Millward for earning Awards of Merit and Excellence for original music, performance and student direction, respectively.

Director Hoshizaki added that he attended the Laura Secord production of *Anything Goes*, and commended teachers Tracy Thorpe and David Sisler, and the students on an outstanding play.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**ii. DSBN Schools Succeed at DECA Provincials**

On February 7– 9, 2016, over 7,000 students from across Ontario competed at the DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) Provincial competition in Toronto. The DSBN had 85 students from six schools competing in various business related areas.

Congratulations to Westlane Secondary School who had two teams place second overall in their respective categories. Second time winners, Kunj Patel, Jasim Khan and Harroop Ahuja wowed the judges with their Entrepreneurship Promotion Project by scoring an 98% overall score on their 27 page written report and presentation. Also placing second with a 93% in the Learn and Earn Project were Matt Rodgers and Azaan Adnan. Both teams competed against almost 40 other teams to place in their categories.

All five Westlane students will represent the DSBN and DECA Ontario, Canada while competing against close to 19,000 students from around the world at the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) to be held in Nashville, Tennessee on April 21-28, 2016.

Kunj and Harroop attended ICDC last year and know how intense the competition will be, and are striving to place in the top 10 in the world.

iii. DSBN Students Serve in the Legislative Assembly

Grade 7 students Sarah Mateus, Dalewood Public School, and Charlotte Fritz, Woodland Public School, are both currently serving as pages in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

About 140 grade 7 and 8 students from across the province are chosen to participate in the program annually and they must submit an essay explaining why they would be a good candidate to participate in this program. The program provides youths with the opportunity to experience provincial legislature in action.

Terms run for 4 weeks and the students are responsible for a host of duties including serving water and distributing documents to MPPs.

iv. DSBN Skills Challenges

The 18th annual DSBN Technological Skills Challenges took place recently for both elementary and secondary students. This year the challenges were entirely hosted by Niagara College and took place at both the Welland Campus and the Niagara on the Lake Campus.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**DSBN Skills Challenges**

All of the Challenges were packed with excited students eager to show off their skills and talents, along with some very proud teachers watching and supporting them.

v. Niagara Community Design Awards

The 2015 Niagara Community Design Awards Celebration was held last week and the District School Board of Niagara was proud to accept two awards.

- The Walker Living Campus at Woodend – Sustainability Award
- Twenty Valley Public School – Architecture – Large Budget Award

The awards recognize and celebrate excellence in design in the Niagara Region that demonstrates smart growth and sustainability in buildings and communities. Congratulations to all those involved in the projects!

Director Hoshizaki thanked the DSBN Facility Services Department for their hard work on these projects.

vi. DSBN Dance Showcase

On March 3, 2016, DSBN elementary and secondary school students participated in the DSBN Dance Showcase that was held at Welland Centennial Secondary School.

Congratulations to Kim Wylde, Welland Centennial Secondary School teacher, for coordinating this memorable showcase.

A short video was shown highlighting the dance performances and the celebration of dance at the DSBN.

Trustee Helga Campbell commended the DSBN for offering learning opportunities for students in all areas.

Trustee Barnett thanked Becky Parton and Swaizie Lauzon for the wonderful job they are doing.

2. Educational Showcases**a) Gordon Public School Science Fair**

Superintendent Hahn introduced the showcase that highlighted the region's first bilingual science fair which was held at Gordon Public School on February 10, 2016.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Gordon Public School Science Fair**

Superintendent Hahn introduced Rikki DaCosta, teacher at Gordon Public School.

Ms. DaCosta explained that Gordon Public School held a science fair in order to give students the opportunity to investigate real world problems and things that are meaningful for them. There were over 50 English and 50 French projects created by the grade 5-8 students at Gordon Public School.

Ms. DaCosta explained that English and French teachers worked together for 3 months to co-plan, co-teach, and support the students.

Two grade 6 students described their project, Gloves that Glow. Gloves that Glow were created to help police officers when directing traffic. By placing red and green LED lights in the gloves, police officers are more visible and drivers know if the officer wants them to stop or go.

Two grade 8 students presented their bilingual project, explaining that Styrofoam takes up more than 30% of our landfills, cannot be recycled and does not decompose. The students wanted to find new ways to reduce the amount of Styrofoam in landfills and find a way to decompose it. They tested a theory that meal worms have an enzyme in their stomach that helps decompose the Styrofoam and discovered that they were able to quickly break down the substance. The students explained that the science fair helped them to think about problems and how to solve them.

Ms. DaCosta added that a number of students will be presenting at the Regional Science Fair being held from April 8-10, 2016.

A short video was shown highlighting students and their projects on the day of the science fair.

b) Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN)

Chair Robinson welcomed Cindy Pasky, Executive Director of the Education Foundation of Niagara, and George Thomas, retired DSBN Superintendent and EFN Board member.

Cindy Paskey made a presentation that highlighted the important work of the EFN, which provides schools with grants that enrich students' educational experiences. Cindy Paskey provided an update of the activities of EFN over the past two years, where the focus has been to diversify fundraising revenue while maintaining funds and services. There was a focus on expanding community sponsors, increasing the number of third party events, and implementing an annual giving campaign to attract new donors and maintain existing donors. EFN works with the United Way to let DSBN employees know that they can direct their donation to EFN through the

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued**Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN)**

United Way. EFN continues with events like the EFN Golf Classic and Beat the Brainiacs Trivia Night.

Cindy Paskey explained that from September 2015 to December 30, 2015, EFN distributed \$28,000 to over 300 students. Last year over 500 students were supported by the end of the year. EFN provides a quick immediate response to basic needs that students have. The gross revenue for 2014/15 was \$345,338.

George Thomas described the Planned Giving Program that EFN recently launched, explaining that 90% of the funds raised by foundations in Canada are through planned giving requests. The EFN is fortunate to have a possible huge donation base in the DSNB. Through grants obtained from the Niagara Community Foundation, EFN was able to hire a consultant to assist with establishing a framework for planned giving. When starting a Planned Giving Program, it typically takes 4 years for gifts to materialize but EFN is pleased to already have 4 commitments in place.

Chair Barnett thanked Cindy Paskey and George Thomas for their presentation and reminded the Board that the EFN Make Change for Children campaign is currently underway.

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS**1. Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Mid-Year Update – September 2015/March 2016**

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

“That the Board receive the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Mid-Year Update – September 2015/March 2016.”

CARRIED

Director Hoshizaki introduced the report, noting that the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) reflects the Board’s core focus on student learning and achievement.

Superintendents Dickson and McGregor, along with the Senior Team, provided an update of the 2015-2016 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement which included a mid-year overview of elementary and secondary school initiatives in the areas of Literacy, Mathematics, Credit Accumulation and Student Voice goals. The Senior Team highlighted strategies which were implemented to support and achieve

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS – continued**Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Mid-Year Update – September 2015/March 2016**

student success and well-being. Superintendents Dickson and McGregor commended all the dedicated staff who have contributed to enhancing student success and achieving the goals set out in the Board Improvement Plan.

The 2015/16 Board Improvement Plan can be found at www.dsbn.org

Vice Chair Chase, Trustee Helga Campbell, and Trustee Ajandi commended the senior team for all of their hard work on the BIPSA Mid-Year update.

H. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

I. BOARD RECESS

There was no board recess.

J. OLD BUSINESS**1. 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 March 1, 2016 be received.”

CARRIED

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that 18 cases were reviewed and approved by the committee and strategies were developed for students' success.

2. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi

“That the report of the Policy Committee dated March 8, 2016 be received and the recommendations adopted”; and

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

“That Policy G-21: Advertising in Schools be approved as received and adopted”; and

“That Policy D-10: Outdoor/Environmental Education be approved as received and adopted”; and

“That Policy D-11: Arts Program be approved as received and adopted”; and

“That Policy D-14: Assessment and Evaluation and Reporting be approved as received and adopted”; and

“That Policy E-12: Workplace Wellness be accepted as received and deleted”; and

“That Policy G-16: Administering Emergency Health Services to Students be approved as amended and adopted”; and

“That Policy G-17: Provision of Health Support Services to Students be approved as received and adopted”; and

“That Policy G-18: Anaphylaxis (Severe Allergies) be approved as received and adopted.”

CARRIED

Trustees were provided with a handout prior to the start of the Board meeting.

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that during the meeting 8 policies were approved as received. New policies will be posted after March 18, 2016 and available for feedback.

A discussion took place around the wording of Policy G-21: Advertising in Schools.

As part of the discussion, Board Lawyer, Brenda Stokes Verworn referred to Section 24 of the Ontario Education Act - Advertisements and Announcements in Schools.

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

“That the word 'normally' be removed from section 1 of Policy G-21: Advertising in Schools.”

NOT CARRIED

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) Request to Begin School Naming Process**

Superintendent Hahn submitted a request to the Board to rename the school that will open on the current E.W. Farr Memorial Public School site.

**Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Helga Campbell**

“That Pelham Centre Public School and E.W. Farr Memorial Public School be authorized to begin the school naming process in accordance with Board Policy A-9.”

CARRIED

2. Trustee Information Session

There was no Trustee information session.

3. Correspondence and Communication

a) Superintendent Dickson thanked Kim Yielding and the Communications Department for their hard work on the BIPSA document.

4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison

- a) Trustee Barnett reported that the Welland Centennial Cheerleading team placed second in the Ontario Cheerleading Championships in Kitchener.
- b) Trustee Barnett reported that Welland Centennial Secondary School will be holding a pasta night on April 1, 2016.
- c) Trustee Barnett congratulated Trustee Helga Campbell, Student Trustee Dubé, and PIC Chair Lisa Mooney for the successful Mental Health and Well-being event held at Gordon Public School on February 24, 2016.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued

- d) Trustee Barnett reported attending a Liberal gathering on March 1, 2016 with Student Trustee Dubé.
- e) Student Trustee Dubé reported that he requested an information package regarding the new tuition grant while at the Liberal gathering.
- f) Trustee Helga Campbell spoke to her experience as being a guest speaker during the Mental Health and Well-being evening at Gordon Public School.
- g) Trustee Keddy Scott congratulated Superintendent Veld and the Facility Services staff for receiving the Niagara Community Design Awards.
- h) Trustee Keddy Scott reported that a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at Twenty Valley Public School on April 22, 2016.
- i) Trustee Crouch congratulated Student Trustee Dubé for being a recipient of the Gene Luczkiw Spirit of the Enterprise Award on February 26, 2016.
- j) Superintendent Reimer Friesen reported that the Grand Opening of Harriet Tubman Public School will take place on May 13, 2016.
- k) Vice Chair Chase thanked Lisa Mooney and the Parent Involvement Committee for organizing a successful event at Harriet Tubman Public School for School Council Chairs.

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

There was no Ontario Public School Boards' Association report.

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

6. Future Meetings

The calendar of March 2016 and April 2016 meetings was provided.

In response to a question by a Trustee, Superintendent Veld clarified that invitations have been sent for the Community Partnership and Planning meeting.

In response to a question by a Trustee, Kim Yielding, Manager of Communication and Public Relations confirmed that information about the Community Partnership and Planning meeting would be posted on the DSBN website.

The Board returned to Committee of the Whole closed session at 9:02 p.m.

The Board returned to open meeting at 9:07 p.m.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS – continued

**Moved by Diane Chase
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi**

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

CARRIED

N. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Jennifer Ajandi**

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

DALE ROBINSON, Chair

WARREN HOSHIZAKI, Director of Education
and Secretary/Treasurer