



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

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**BOARD ROOM – EDUCATION CENTRE**

**January 24, 2017**

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, Linda Crouch, Jonathan Fast, Cheryl Keddy Scott, Kevin Maves (Vice Chair), Dale Robinson (Chair), Dave Schaubel

**Student Trustees:** Samir Alazzam and Karling Luciani

**Officials:** Warren Hoshizaki (Director of Education), Lora Courtois, John Dickson, Wesley Hahn, Jennifer Feren, Paula MacKinnon, Helen McGregor, Kelly Pisek, Marian Reimer Friesen, JoAnna Roberto, Michael St. John, 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. 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.

Chair Robinson welcomed guests who were in the gallery.

**COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD – continued**

**Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent**

There were no members absent.

**3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

**B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)**

Moved by Jennifer Ajandi  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

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

**CARRIED**

Moved by Dave Schaubel  
Seconded Sue Barnett

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

**CARRIED**

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:33 p.m.

**C. SINGING OF “O CANADA”**

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

The Board remained standing for a moment of silence in honor of DSBN staff and students that have recently passed away.

Chair Robinson welcomed Jennifer Feren, Board Lawyer, and Michael St. John, Superintendent of Education to their new roles at the DSBN.

**D. REFLECTIVE READING**

Trustee Crouch 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 Diane Chase  
Seconded by Cheryl Keddy Scott

“That the Minutes of the Organization Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 6, 2016 be confirmed as submitted;” and

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated December 6, 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 Kevin Maves  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

“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 Justin Rideout, Student, Laura Secord Secondary School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Laura Secord Secondary School student Justin Rideout for his outstanding academic and extra-curricular achievements.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Director's Report and Recognition****Recognition of Justin Rideout, Student, Laura Secord Secondary School**

Justin Rideout is a grade 12 student who has achieved the Honour Roll each year and received the Instrumental Music Award in grades 9 and 10. Through his participation in Laura Secord's Drumline in grade 11, Justin has earned recognition from both the City of St. Catharines and the Provincial Drumline Battle Champions.

Justin Rideout has had a variety of experiences that have made him an expert in sound, lighting, and technology. He is reliable, dependable and is the "go to" person when staff is in need of support. Justin has been hired by DSBN Auditorium Rentals - Tech Crew.

Justin Rideout has been involved in many extra-curricular activities including: junior band, jazz band, concert choir, tubarama, batterie, music council, the Anything Goes orchestra and tech crew, gig choir, and is also a Jump mentor.

Justin Rideout is also very involved in the community. He is a member of the Salvation Army Brass Band where he is the principle trombone player and is the assistant counting coordinator for The Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign. Although Justin's schedule is extremely busy, he has maintained employment at FreshCo., Wendy's Restaurant, Riothill Studios, Live Sound, Detour Music Hall, and Warehouse Music Hall.

Director Hoshizaki presented Justin Rideout with a token of the Board's appreciation for his extraordinary contributions.

**b) Recognition of Rossi Raymond, Head Caretaker, Fort Erie Secondary School**

Director Hoshizaki recognized Rossi Raymond for her positive effect on school culture as a whole, and particularly to the lives of the students in the Specialized School to Community (SSTC) program.

Rossi Raymond is the Head Caretaker at Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS) and has worked for the DSBN for 18 years in various caretaking roles. Rossi joined FESS only 11 months ago, but has become an integral part of the school and her daily contributions have had a positive effect on both staff and students alike. Rossi's actions embody the DSBN's "I Matter" belief.

Rossi Raymond is extremely hardworking, dedicated, and full of initiative. Rossi regularly goes above and beyond her regular duties to make sure that the school is clean, safe, and ready for learning. She leads her team with positivity, humour, and pride, and everyone that works with her recognizes her dedication.

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Director’s Report and Recognition****Recognition of Rossi Raymond, Head Caretaker, Fort Erie Secondary School**

In the short time that Rossi Raymond has been at FESS, she has gotten to know each of the students in the SSTC program and regularly spends her own time and money to enrich their lives. One day, the FESS pool was closed on a day the students were scheduled to swim. Rossi knew that the students would be very disappointed at this unexpected closure, so she decided to bring in a laser light show to lift their spirits. Most recently Rossi created a “Pirates of the Caribbean” birthday card for a student because she knew the student was a big fan of the movie.

Rossi has enriched the lives of students at Fort Erie Secondary School, both through her work and her caring heart.

Director Hoshizaki presented Rossi Raymond with a token of the Board’s appreciation for her extraordinary contributions.

**c) Director’s Update to Trustees****i. Burleigh Hill Community Care Toy Drive**

For the past 18 years the staff, students, and parents of Burleigh Hill Public School have conducted a Community Care Campaign during the holidays.

Each November, teacher coordinator Maria Carfagnini, invites students, parents, family members, and alumni to volunteer to collect Canadian Tire money and cash donations. She coordinates the volunteers, scheduling them to be present outside the Canadian Tire store every Thursday through Sunday until the wrap up of the campaign in mid-December.

The campaign culminates with a team of students and volunteers walking to the Glendale Canadian Tire store to spend the funds raised. This year each student volunteer had \$140.00 to spend on Christmas gifts for those in need in our community. Maria Carfagnini works with Canadian Tire managers Todd and Chris who discount items to make the funds go even farther.

This year 14 shopping carts full of gifts, valued at over \$6000, were brought back to the school to be donated to Community Care on behalf of the Burleigh Hill Public School community.

**ii. A Christmas Carol Production**

E.L. Crossley’s recent production of A Christmas Carol was a big success. Students were proud to perform in the school’s newly renovated drama studio. Carollers were carolling in three-part harmony, musicians were accompanying

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Director's Update to Trustees****A Christmas Carol Production**

them, and actors and actresses were giving it their all! The artistic talents of the students and staff was outstanding.

**iii. Hour of Code**

DSBN schools participated in Hour of Code for the second year in a row. Hour of Code is a global movement that celebrates and highlights computational thinking each year during the first week of December.

A target was set to achieve 1 million minutes of coding during the week and far surpassed this goal, reaching an impressive 1,925,446 minutes in 89 schools across all grades. Central Public School in Grimsby was the leader, logging 296,000 minutes.

**iv. Bell Let's Talk Day**

Director Hoshizaki reminded the Board that Bell Let's Talk Day is on January 25, 2017. Every time you talk, text, and join in on social media, Bell will donate 5 cents to mental health initiatives.

**v. Kindergarten at the DSBN**

Kindergarten Open Houses are just around the corner on February 2. Schools will be open for new students and their parents from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm in order to accommodate as many people as possible.

Thank you to administrators and school staff for providing a welcoming atmosphere for our newest learners and their families.

A Kindergarten Open House radio advertisement was shared with the Board.

Trustees thanked Rossi Raymond and Justin Rideout for their outstanding contributions and for being great role models in the community.

**2. Educational Showcases****a) Niagara Regional Police Services**

Board Lawyer, Brenda Stokes Verworn introduced the showcase, which highlighted the long standing partnership between the District School Board of Niagara and the Niagara Regional Police Service.

Brenda Stokes Verworn introduced Police Chief Jeffrey McGuire and Constable David Thiessen (School Resource Officer), and added that

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS – continued****Educational Showcases****Niagara Regional Police Services**

Constable David Thiessen was an integral member of the 2016 Police Protocol Committee.

Trustees were provided with background information on how the Police Protocol began 24 years ago.

Brenda Stokes Verworn added that the DSBN wants to recognize the positive impact that the presence of School Resource Officers (otherwise known as SROs) have had on DSBN secondary schools. Chief McGuire has been a great advocate for the establishment of the SRO Program in Niagara. There are currently six SROs assigned to our 21 secondary schools, under the leadership of Sergeant Rich Gaudreau.

On behalf of the DSBN, Brenda Stokes Verworn extended sincere appreciation to Chief McGuire for his support of the SRO program and his commitment to the Police Protocol. Chief McGuire was presented with a fully signed copy of the newest Police Protocol.

Chair Robinson thanked Police Chief Jeffrey McGuire for the positive impact the SRO program has on students.

Police Chief Jeffrey McGuire thanked Constable David Thiessen and the other School Resource Officers, noting that it is the work they do in schools making connections that makes the difference.

**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 Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Linda Crouch**

**“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1829 to 1858, for the months of November and December 2016 totalling \$38,761,309.09 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

**2. REPORT OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Helga Campbell  
Seconded by Lora Campbell**

**“That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated December 7, 2016 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Helga Campbell reported that the Parent Involvement Committee received an update from Superintendent Reimer Friesen about the 2016/17 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement. The committee also finalized feedback for the Policy Committee on DSBN Policies to be reviewed from October 21-December 16, 2016 and received an update regarding EQAO grading of the recent Ontario Secondary School Literacy Tests.

**3. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE**

**Moved by Samir Alazzam  
Seconded by Karling Luciani**

**“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated December 7, 2016 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustee Alazzam reported that during the December 7, 2016 meeting of the Student Trustee Senate, the group worked on timelines and task delegation for the “Show Your Colours” event being hosted in the spring.

Student Trustee Luciani added that the committee also worked on planning for the Student Trustee Retreat which will take place on February 22, 2017.

Chair Robinson reminded the Board that Student Trustee Luciani was chosen by RBC as part of their Make 150 count campaign. Student Trustee Luciani reported that she has delivered the tissue box covers that were created in support of mental health awareness to each of DSBN's secondary schools.



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

**Moved by Lora Campbell  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel**

**“That the reports of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated December 7, 2016 and January 11, 2017 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Lora Campbell reported that 17 cases were reviewed by the committee during the December 7, 2016 meeting. Of the 17 cases reviewed, all 17 cases were approved.

Trustee Lora Campbell added that 14 cases were reviewed by the committee during the January 11, 2017 meeting. Of the 14 cases reviewed, all were approved.

Trustee Lora Campbell advised that as of the January 11, 2017 meeting, 64 students have been reengaged into learning for the 2016/17 school year.

In response to a question by a Trustee about whether sufficient supports are in place for these students, Trustee Lora Campbell clarified that additional funds were allocated to expand the number of staff that are assigned to Supervised Alternative Learning and Superintendent McGregor added that the DSBN is meeting the needs of these students.

**5. 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 December 8, 2016 be received.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Ajandi reported that the committee received a presentation from DSBN Social Workers Dave Peirce and Isaac Vrag on the topic of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Slides from the presentation can be found in the Board package.

In response to a question from a Trustee about hiring an Applied Behavioural Analysis Facilitator, Superintendent Dickson clarified that because of recent government changes, support is being provided to school boards to help support autistic students that are transitioning from programs that are no longer available to them.

In response to a question from a Trustee, Superintendent Dickson clarified the role and reasoning behind hiring an Applied Behavioural Analysis Facilitator.

**6. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Moved by Cheryl Keddy Scott**

**Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

**“That the report of the Policy Committee dated January 17, 2017 be received;”  
and**

**“That Policy A-09: Naming/Renaming of Schools be approved as amended  
and adopted;” and**

**“That Policy G-32: Fees for Learning Materials and Activities be approved as  
amended and adopted;” and**

**“That Policy E-17: Performance Appraisal be approved as received and  
adopted;” and**

**“That Policy F-03: Facility Access and Intrusion Alarms be approved as  
amended and adopted;” and**

**“That Policy D-01: Digital Technology Use By Students be approved as  
amended and adopted;” and**

**“That Policy E-05: Digital Technology Use By Staff be approved as received  
and adopted;” and**

**“That Policy E-16: Electronic Social Media be approved as amended and  
adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Keddy Scott reported that the committee reviewed seven policies during the January 17, 2017 meeting, Policy changes reflect feedback that was received from the public on the DSBN website. Seven additional policies will be reviewed during the next meeting on March 7, 2017 and they are currently available for review on the DSBN website.

Trustee Chase commented that it was helpful to be able to review public feedback prior to the Policy Committee meeting and asked if this could become common practice. Trustee Keddy Scott responded, saying that all Trustees will receive a copy of any public feedback prior to the Policy Committee meeting to allow time for review.

Trustee Chase questioned whether public feedback regarding properly researching proposed school names prior to voting was addressed in revised Policy A-09: Naming/Renaming of Schools.

Superintendent Pisek outlined sections of the revised policy that address these concerns, and allows Trustees and the school community at large the opportunity to research names and provide feedback prior to voting.

**7. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE****Moved by Kevin Maves****Seconded by Jonathan Fast**

**“That the report of the Finance Committee dated January 18, 2017 be received;” and**

**“That the International Education 2015-16 Financial Report be received and that \$224,000 be allocated to support the Board’s strategic initiatives as directed by the Finance Committee;” and**

**“That the 2016-17 Interim Financial Report, reflecting updated enrolments for October 31, 2016, and the resulting changes in revenues and expenditures, be received;” and**

**“That staff be directed to implement the recommended fee structure for the community use rentals of natural and synthetic turf fields;” and**

**“That Borrowing Resolution 2017-01, authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$23,584,329 for the short-term financing of Ministry funded capital projects, pursuant to the provisions of section 243(1) of the Education Act, be approved.”**

**CARRIED**

Vice Chair Maves provided a summary of the International Education Financial Report and a summary of the 2016/17 Interim Financial Report. The 2016/17 Interim Financial Report reflects changes in DSBN enrolment as of October 31, 2016.

Vice Chair Maves summarized rental rates for natural and synthetic turf fields, adding that revenue will be used for upkeep of the facilities.

Trustee Barnett requested that page 68 of the Board package be corrected to reflect the proper date of 2016/17.

**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 were no staff reports.

**2. Trustee Information Session**

There was no Trustee information session.

**3. Correspondence and Communication**

There was no correspondence or communication.

**4. Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

- a) Trustee Keddy Scott provided a reminder that the final public meeting for the West Niagara Secondary Accommodation Review will be held on January 26, 2017.
- b) Trustee Helga Campbell reported attending the grand opening of the Westlane Greenhouse on December 11, 2016, adding that it is a great addition to the school.

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

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

Trustee Chase reported on the OPSBA Public Education Symposium that was held on January 19 – 21, 2017 in Toronto.

Highlights of the symposium included:

- Reviewing and providing feedback on the Ministry of Education's new draft Strategic Planners Guidebook.
- Ottawa-Carleton and Algoma School Boards shared leading practices about their strategic plans and how they have been implemented.
- The Algoma Leadership Table includes school boards, municipal, and health agency representatives. Each stakeholder shares their strategic plan which fosters a more collaborative atmosphere. They use this Leadership Table to support community initiatives and members.
- Discussions took place around how OPSBA can assist Boards to prepare for Collective Bargaining. The focus was on communications and media relations and they took a poll of what issues had the highest priorities within each Board to come up with a list of priorities that will be shared with us in the future.
- The Minister of Education Mitzie Hunter and Associate Minister of Education Indira Naidoo-Harris highlighted Ministry initiatives, and thanked Trustees for the work they do on behalf of students.

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

- The role that Social Media plays in our lives, some strategies to build meaningful online content, and about ensuring that our online presence will be a benefit to in the future, rather than a hindrance.
- During the Central West Regional Meeting, discussions took place around OPSBA's draft 2017 priorities. Mental Health and Wellbeing continue to be a strong focus. Members were also encouraged to submit a response to the OPSBA wellbeing survey so that OPSBA can compile a response to submit to the Ministry on behalf of all boards. Trustee Chase thanked Superintendent Dickson and his team for the time they took in preparing the response.
- Algoma Trustee Elaine Johnston shared her story about growing up as the child of parents who survived residential schools. Adjunct Professor Bob Watts shared his reflections on his experience as an Indigenous person

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

**6. Future Meetings**

The calendar of February 2017 meetings was provided.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Sue Barnett  
Seconded by Dave Schaubel

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

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**DALE ROBINSON**, Chair

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