



AGENDA AND MATERIAL
BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2010
7:00 P.M.

FATHER KENNETH BURNS, C.S.C. BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee Scalzi -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meetings
 - 5.1 February 23, 2010 A5.1
 - 5.2 March 9, 2010 A5.2

B. DELEGATIONS

1. Youth Citizen of the Year Recipient - Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce - Kaitlin Saxton, Lakeshore Catholic High School B1
2. Presentation of Plaque by St. Catharines Diocesan Development and Peace Committee - Frank Fohr, Chair B2

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School C1
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2010 and Consideration of Recommendations C2
 - 2.1 Financial Reports
 - 2.1.1 Monthly Banking Transactions for the Month of February 2010 C2.1.1
 - 2.1.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2010 C2.1.2
3. Approved Minutes of the S.E.A.C. Meeting of February 7, 2010 C3
4. 2010 Technological Skills Competition C4
5. Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines 2010-2011 C5
6. H1N1 Pandemic Update – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management C6

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Correspondence | |
| 1.1 Holy Cross Fathers – Thank You for Donation | D1.1 |
| 1.2 Ministry of Education – Thank You for Copy of Director’s Annual Report 2009 | D1.2 |
| 1.3 Brock University - Congratulations on Niagara Catholic’s Receipt of 2010 Global Best Award | D1.3 |
| • President and Vice-Chancellor, Jack Lightstone | |
| • Professor and Dean, Faculty of Education, James Heap | |
| 2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended | - |
| 3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action | |
| 3.1 Ministry Consultation re: Parent Involvement Committees | D3.1 |
| 4. Trustee Information | - |
| 4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – March 9, 2010 | D4.1 |
| 4.2 Calendar of Events – April 2010 | D4.2 |
| 4.3 Vision 2020 Summit – April 14, 2010 4:00-9:00 p.m. – Saint Michael Catholic High School | - |
| 4.4 Director’s Meeting – April 15, 2010 | - |
| 4.5 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast – April 19, 2010 – Quality Parkway Hotel & Conference Centre | - |
| 5. Open Question Period | - |
| <i>(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night’s public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)</i> | |

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

G. REPORT ON THE IN CAMERA SESSION

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 23, 2010**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of Board Meeting of February 23, 2010, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Fera.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
John Belcastro	✓		
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Gary Crole	✓		
John Dekker	✓		
Frank Fera	✓		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Tony Scalzi	✓		
Student Trustees			
Juliana Ciccarelli	✓		
Megan Grocholsky	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Mark Lefebvre**, Administrator of School Effectiveness; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/ Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of February 23, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 26, 2010**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 26, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS

1. **Niagara Catholic United Way Donations for 2010**
- Peter Papp, Executive Director and Paul Leon, Campaign Chair

Director Crocco presented brief background information on Niagara Catholic's fundraising efforts for the United Way, which includes staff lunches, dress down days, book sales, raffles and personal donations facilitated through payroll deductions.

Peter Papp, Executive Director, was in attendance to accept a cheque on behalf of the United Way in the amount of \$23,220. Mr. Papp thanked the Trustees and Staff of the Board for their generous donations.

2. **Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Recipients**
- Kyle Druzina - St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School
- Jack Fazzari - St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented background information on the Ontario Community Newspaper Association Junior Citizen of the Year Awards.

Kyle Druzina, a Grade 7 student at St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School, and Jack Fazzari, a Grade 5 student at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School, were 2 of 12 recipients of the announced on Friday, January 22, 2009.

Kyle presented information on the challenge he presented to students at St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School to save their pennies for the "Wells of Hope" campaign, which supports the housing and water projects in Guatemala, which raised \$5000.

Jack presented information on the business, " Good Ideas Inc.", he started with a friend to raise money for the Welland Hospital Foundation. Through a variety of activities, such as publishing their own newspaper, and organizing fundraising events such as a car wash, garage sale, book sale, and Christmas party, they raised \$2,000 and have inspired others in their community to contribute.

Chairperson Burtnik congratulated the students on their efforts and asked Trustees Belcastro and Crole to present the students with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" Pins.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program – St. Martin Catholic Elementary School

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education, introduced Principal Dean Stunt.

Principal Stunt, with the assistance of students and staff showcased St. Martin Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked Principal Stunt, the staff and students for their presentation and performance.

2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010:

2.1 Approval of Policies

2.1.1 Safe Arrival Policy (302.3)

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Safe Arrival Policy (302.3), as presented.

CARRIED

2.1.2 Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7), as presented.
CARRIED

2.1.3 Closure of School/Accommodation Review Policy (701.2)

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Closure of School/Accommodation Review Policy (701.2), as presented.
CARRIED

2.2 Financial Reports

2.2.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Crole
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2010, as presented for information.
CARRIED

2.2.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Crole
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2010, as presented for information.
CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 6, 2010

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 6, 2010, as presented for information.
CARRIED

4. Ministry of Education Mid-Year Progress Update

Director Crocco introduced the report on the Ministry of Education Mid-Year Progress Update, pointing out that this report and the following report on the Mid-Year Progress Review of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010, are linked as they both provide a mid-year review of improving student achievement and a review of the achievement to date of the Niagara Catholic District School Board Priorities.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells presented the Ministry of Education Mid-Year Progress Update. The Board Improvement Planning (BIP) Team, along with Senior Administration, meet as a Board Team and with the Ministry of Education to review and update the plan, in order to meet the needs of all students, to improve student achievement.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells thanked the BIP Team for their hard work and dedication to the task at hand and acknowledged Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects, and Chair of the Team for collating and analyzing the data for preparation for the final document.

5. Mid-Year Progress Review of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010

Director Crocco presented the Mid-Year Progress Review of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010, which was designed as part of the transition towards an approved Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

The results of the mid-year review were collated and reviewed by Administrative Council as a measurement of success to date in achieving each indicator within each system priority. Following discussions, specific strategies and timelines were designed, as required, to affect the achievement of each indicator by the conclusion of this academic year.

Director Crocco presented each of the four (4) System Priorities and reported on the achievement level of the indicators within each priority as either completed, in progress or in development.

Director Crocco will present a final report on the 2009-2010 System Priorities at the June 15, 2010 Board Meeting.

6. School Year Calendar 2010-2011

Superintendent Iannantuono presented the proposed School Year Calendar 2010-2011 for the Board's consideration. He informed the Board that based on feedback from the consultation process, discussions with the School Year Calendar Committee, Administrative Council and the District School Board of Niagara, modified 2010-2011 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars will be submitted to the Ministry for approval by March 1st, 2010, pending Board approval.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2010-2011 school year.

CARRIED

7. Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee – 2010-2011

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the report from the Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee – 2010-2011.

8. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management

Director Crocco presented the monthly Board report on the H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 Letter from Minister of Education – Honorable Leona Dombrowsky

Director Crocco presented the Letter from Minister of Education, Honorable Leona Dombrowsky, acknowledging receipt of a congratulatory letter from the Niagara Catholic District School Board regarding her appointment as Minister of Education, and in appreciation of a copy of the Director's Annual Report 2009.

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Nil Report

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – February 9, 2010

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – February 9, 2010 issue for Trustees' information.

4.2 Calendar of Events – March 2010

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events – March 2010 for Trustees' information.

4.3 Niagara Catholic Skills Competition – Opening Ceremony – March 9, 2010

Director Crocco informed Trustees of the Niagara Catholic Skills Competition – Opening Ceremony – March 9, 2010.

4.4 Niagara Catholic International Co-operative Education Program – Guatemala 2010

Director Crocco presented an update on the Niagara Catholic International Co-operative Education Program – Guatemala 2010. He informed Trustees that a blog type link has been created on the Board's website. The Director will keep Trustees updated on the students first Niagara Catholic International Co-op experience.

4.5 Solar Photovoltaic Systems

Controller of Plant Woods presented information on the recent announcement that Niagara Catholic has received funding support for renewable energy technology projects at Our Lady of Fatima and St. Joseph Catholic Elementary Schools in Grimsby. The funding allocation is for a total funding of \$1,898,746 to install solar photovoltaic systems on the two replacement school buildings, which are now under construction. A full report will be brought to the Committee of the Whole on March 9, 2010.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

**E. NOTICES OF MOTION
F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of February 23, 2010.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of January 26, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of February 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of January 26, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of February 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

The following motions were reported from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of February 9, 2010:

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F5.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F5.1)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the February 23, 2010 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **February 23, 2010**.

Approved on the **30th** day of **March 2010**.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF
MARCH 9, 2010**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of Special Board Meeting of March 9, 2010, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at 9:30 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Belcastro from attending the Special Board Meeting of March 9, 2010.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
John Belcastro			✓
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Gary Crole	✓		
John Dekker	✓		
Frank Fera		✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Tony Scalzi	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Frank Iannantuono**, Superintendent of Education

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of March 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

B. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting.

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting at 10:20 p.m. and reconvened at 10:25 p.m.

C. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting of March 9, 2010.

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Crole
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item B1 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item B1)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item B2 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item B2)

D. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the March 9, 2010 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **March 9, 2010**.

Approved on the **30th** day of **March 2010**.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: PRESENTATIONS
YOUTH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT
- PORT COLBORNE-WAINFLEET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- KAITLIN SAXTON, LAKESHORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

Board Meeting
March 30, 2010

YOUTH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT PORT COLBORNE-WAINFLEET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE KAITLIN SAXTON, LAKESHORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Kaitlin has consistently been an Honor Roll student at Lakeshore Catholic High School. She is currently taking all university level courses and excelling in all courses. Her extra curricular commitments at school include: Relay for Life, SCOEP, Lakeshore Catholic spiritual retreats, pilgrimage planning committee, Interact Club and teen recreational activities.

Kaitlin is actively involved with the Lakeshore Catholic High School Student Council and is also on the Niagara Catholic District School Board Student Senate as a Lakeshore Catholic High School representative.

Kaitlin has gone beyond the required community service hours required and has in excess of 250 hours to date. Some of her community involvement includes Community Living, Out Reach Centre, St. Therese Church and the Canadian Cancer Society.

To enhance her spiritual development Kaitlin traveled to Dominica this past February to complete missionary work. While in Dominica Kaitlin worked in a school tutoring one on one and organizing recreational activities for the children. On the other end of the spectrum she also worked at a Seniors Home maintaining landscaping and performing general daily duties.

We are very proud of Kaitlin's accomplishments and spiritual maturity. Kaitlin is an excellent representative from Lakeshore Catholic High School who exemplifies to a high degree the Catholic Students Graduate Expectations.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: PRESENTATIONS
PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE BY ST. CATHARINES
DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE COMMITTEE**



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

Board Meeting
March 30, 2010

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE BY ST. CATHARINES DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE COMMITTEE

Mr. Frank Fohr, Chair of the St. Catharines Diocesan Development and Peace Committee has requested an opportunity to present the Niagara Catholic District School Board with a special plaque. The plaque is in recognition and appreciation of the \$ 70,603.12 raised for the Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts by Niagara Catholic students and staff and of Niagara Catholic's continuous educational and financial support of numerous Development and Peace projects.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
MONSIGNOR CLANCY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Catholic School Profile

Monsignor Clancy

Niagara Catholic
District School Board

Principal – Gregory Hulse
Vice Principal – Diane Pizale

41 Collier Rd. S.
Thorold, Ontario
L2V 3S9
905.227.4910

Niagara Catholic District School Board

October 2009

Director of Education

John Crocco

Superintendent of Education

Robert Ciarlo

Catholic Education Centre

427 Rice Road
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1
905.735.0240
Fax 905.734.8828

Parish

Holy Rosary Church

Pastor: Fr. Mathew Pendanathu

Board Mission

“The mission of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, as a Catholic Community of learners, is to ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills and values to reach their full potential, with Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Light.”

School Mission Statement

“We the community of Monsignor Clancy support and affirm each other in our mission to promote the involvement of the church, the home, and the community in the education of the students in our care.”

School Motto or Theme

“What would Jesus do?”

Who We Are

A. T. Clancy School was erected in 1964. Additions were made in 1968 and 1990, after the school had been re-commissioned Monsignor Clancy Secondary School in 1989. In 1999 the school was reconstituted as an elementary school.

- Grades in the school: 4 to 8. Total student enrolment 480 students
- Our facilities include a chapel, science lab, library, 2 computer labs, 120 seat theatre, cafeteria, double gym, CyberQuest technology lab, instrumental music room & courtyard
- We are handicap accessible with specialized rooms for life skills instruction, sensory stimulation & physiotherapy
- In addition to the principal and vice-principal, we have 20 classroom teachers, 3 French teachers, 2 educational resource teachers and 2 CyberQuest teachers.
- The 2 Learning Strategies & Social Skills Classrooms located on site have full time teachers & full time Child & Youth Workers servicing students from across the peninsula
- We have an Intensive French program (grade 6) and an Extended French Program where history and geography are taught in French (grade 7 & 8)
- Support staff include: 1 part time child & youth workers, a library technician, a secretary, 6 educational assistants, two full time interpreters, a full time custodian and 3 cleaners
- Our grade 7 and 8 students attend classes at Cyber Quest, located in our school. This lab introduces students to broad base technologies including engineering design, C N C machining, wood working, filmmaking, digital editing and audio recording.
- In addition to the Ontario curriculum, we have a full religious program culminating in the Spiritual Centre and Outdoor Education Program (SCOEP) and the sacrament of Confirmation in the grade 8 year

What We Stand For

Community Projects

Monsignor Clancy students are committed to helping those less fortunate than us and promoting worthwhile causes. We participate in the following endeavors:

- Food drives at Thanksgiving, Christmas & Easter
- Monthly charitable donations such as Holy Childhood, Terry Fox Walk, N.P.C.C., etc.
- Support of Community Care/St. Vincent de Paul – winter clothing drive & sponsoring a family
- Social Justice - sponsorship of an African foster child

Special Activities / Programs

Projects and events help our students develop an appreciation of the arts and develop personal skills. Some of the special programs we participate in are:

- Annual Talent Show - offers a unique opportunity for children to “showcase” their individual God given talents and abilities
- Drama presentations by professional and student based theatrical groups
- Sports - intra-mural and team activities. We field teams in 3-pitch, volleyball, cross-country, basketball, soccer, floor hockey, and track & field
- School Choir and dance / tumbling team
- Clean Green Team environmental club
- Student Council
- Yearbook Committee

Ideals, Values & Commitments

We help each child reach his or her fullest potential. As Catholic educators we believe each student is a gift from God, worthy of love and respect of others. We foster an affirming and supportive Christian school community nurturing self-esteem and positive self-image.

In May and June of 2009, the EQAO Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics were administered. The results of these provincial assessments were released in September 2009. Students who have achieved a Level 3 or 4 on an EQAO Assessment have achieved the Provincial Standard as established by the Ontario Government.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is celebrating the achievement of students in Grades 3 and 6 for exceeding the provincial averages in the EQAO Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Our commitment to quality Catholic Education, and to the achievement of each individual child, has been demonstrated by the participation of 99% of all Grade 3 and Grade 6 students in the EQAO Primary and Junior Assessments.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board continues to facilitate Student Achievement on the EQAO Assessments through the dedicated and coordinated efforts of its staff through continuous School and Board Improvement Planning initiatives.

Niagara Catholic System Priorities:

- Nurturing our Distinctive Catholic Education
- Improving Student Achievement
- Building Capacity with Trustees, Administrators, Staff and Parents
- Improving Efficiencies in the Structure and Operations of the System to Maximize Performance

EQAO Background Information

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) tests students' skills in reading, writing and mathematics at key points in their elementary-school education. Students are tested twice:

- at the end of Grade 3, to assess what they've learned throughout the Primary Division (Grades 1–3)
- at the end of Grade 6, to assess what they've learned throughout the Junior Division (Grades 4–6).

Why does Ontario conduct province-wide tests of reading, writing and mathematics?

In 1995, Ontario's Royal Commission on Learning recommended such tests for Ontario students. The Commission made this recommendation after consulting with parents, educators, students and others who wanted greater accountability and assurances of quality in the publicly funded education system.

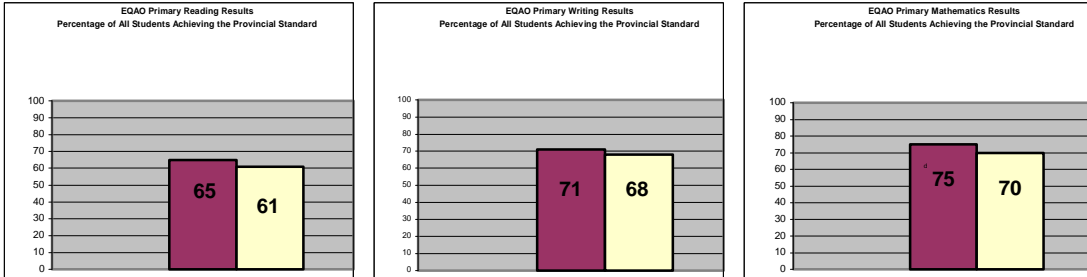
What do EQAO results tell me about my child?

EQAO test results provide a snapshot of your child's achievement in relation to the provincial standard. Students meeting or exceeding the standard (Levels 3 and 4) have demonstrated most or all of the required reading, writing and mathematics knowledge and skills expected at this stage in their education. However, no single test can offer a complete or definitive picture of what your child has learned. In the end, no one better understands the true measure of your child's abilities and knowledge—or is in a better position to assess them—than his or her classroom teacher. When used together, the results of EQAO and classroom tests provide a more complete picture of your child's knowledge.

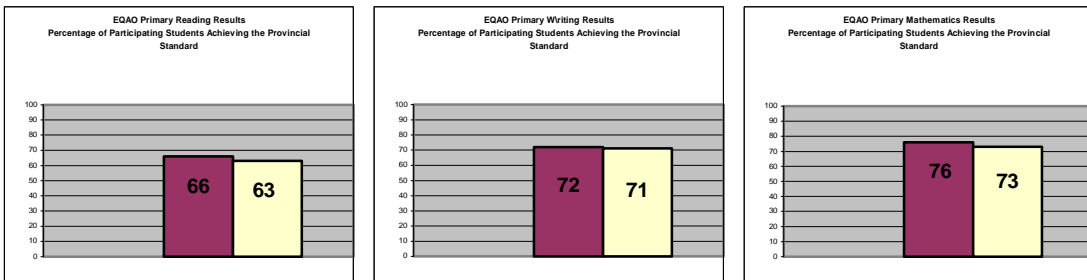
(A Parent's Guide to EQAO Testing, EQAO, September 2009)

EQAO Primary Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics Results

All Students (including Exempted and No-Data Students)

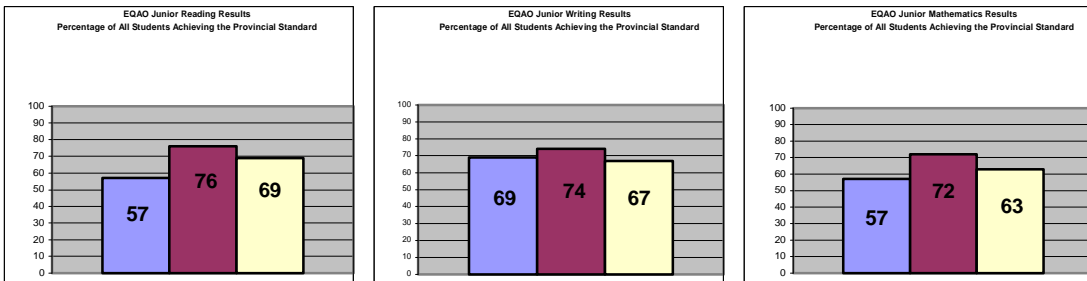


Participating Students (excluding Exempted and No-Data Students)

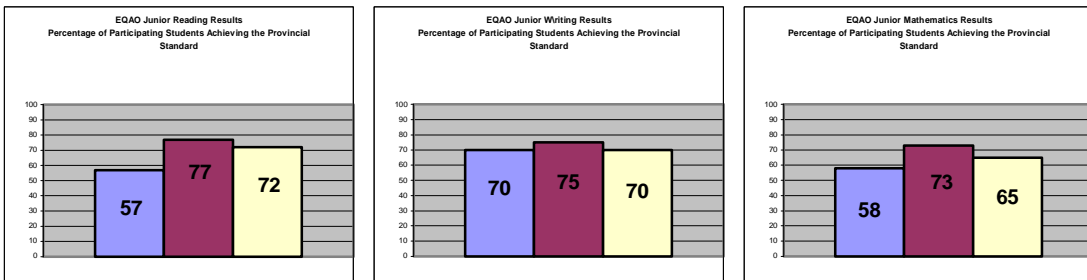


EQAO Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics Results

All Students (including Exempted and No-Data Students)



Participating Students (excluding Exempted and No-Data Students)



School
 Board
 Province

Board System Priority**Improving Student Achievement**

- To reduce the gap in student achievement by focusing on increasing Niagara Catholic's "16 by 16" achievement level an average of 3% and the Board graduation rate an average of 2% by June 2010.
- To improve student achievement by focusing on increasing Niagara Catholic's EQAO scores and the OSSLT achievement results an average of 2% by June 2010.
- To develop a Niagara Catholic Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting K-12 Document that will complement and comply with the Ministry of Education Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Policy by June 2010.
- To sustain literacy and numeracy initiatives and implement programs to improve student achievement and pathway success, Kindergarten to Graduation, as outlined in Board and School Improvement Plans.

Board Improvement Planning**SMART Goals**

Niagara Catholic has developed SMART Goals in the Four Pillars of Student Success:

Literacy: To improve student achievement on the EQAO Primary and Junior Reading and Writing Assessments and the

OSSLT through data analysis, targeted interventions and instructional strategies to increase the number of students who achieve the Provincial Standard by 2% by June 30, 2010.

Numeracy: To improve student achievement on the EQAO Primary and Junior Mathematics Assessment and the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics (Academic and Applied) through data analysis, targeted interventions and instructional strategies to increase the number of students who achieve the Provincial Standard by 2% by June 30, 2010

Pathways: To improve student achievement by targeting instructional supports, programs, strategies and resources that support student transition:

- from home to school entry
- between elementary divisions
- between elementary and secondary panels
- to post secondary destinations

in order to reduce learning gaps and to improve the high school graduation rate by 2% by June 30, 2010.

Faith, Community, Culture, and Caring: To improve student achievement by continuing to foster a safe, equitable and inclusive learning environment that

- ensures the distinctive nature of Catholic education
- reflects the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- employs focused interventions

to reduce the overall number of suspensions by 2% by June 30, 2010.

MONSIGNOR CLANCY Catholic Elementary School Improvement Planning

Literacy: We will sustain school and board initiatives and utilize the services of our Literacy Coach to focus on improving student literacy in all subject areas. We will enhance our data collection and subsequent data analysis to assist teachers in targeting specific teaching strategies necessary to enhance individual student achievement. We will use regular common assessment practices in every class across grades 4 through 8. We will regularly access the expertise of a Literacy Coach to share best practices in programming and teaching strategies.

SMART Goal: To have all teachers model open response answers so that 70% of all students at the school will respond using a variety of approaches (oral to written progression) to open response question by May 2010.

Numeracy: The Niagara Catholic District School Board has a multi-year plan that focuses on the development of mathematically literate learners. Through focused teaching methods and guided practice students will become mathematically literate learners who:

- successfully communicate their mathematical thinking and accurately complete procedures
- correctly select and use manipulatives, calculators and computer applications in their investigations
- select and apply a variety of appropriate and efficient strategies to solve problems
- connect mathematical relationships with other subject areas and in real life contexts

SMART Goal: To have 100% of teachers implement 3 part lesson during numeracy block by December 2009.

Pathways:

SMART Goal: To provide opportunities for student s to explore different pathways by maintaining current level of contact with Denis Morris and increase other explorations by at least one opportunity per term.

Faith, Community, Culture and Caring: The mission of the Niagara Catholic District School Board as a Catholic community of school learners is to ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills, and values to reach their full potential, with Christ as the Way, the Truth, and the Light. We will continue staff faith formation guided by Father Mathew Pendanathu from Holy Rosary Church.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2010**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2010, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2010.

2.1 Financial Reports

2.1.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February 2010, as presented.

2.1.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2010. as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Dekker.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chairperson Dekker excused Trustee Belcastro from attending the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2010.

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
John Belcastro			✓
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Gary Crole	✓		
John Dekker	✓		
Frank Fera	✓		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Tony Scalzi	✓		
Student Trustees			
Juliana Ciccarelli	✓		
Megan Grocholsky	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary / Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Aboriginal Education Initiatives 2009-2010

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects, and Yolanda Fera, Aboriginal Project Lead, who presented the report on the Aboriginal Education Initiatives 2009-2010. Mr. DiPersio highlighted the initiatives of the program, whose main goal is to improve achievement among First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students, and to close the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students in curriculum.

The OHNIA:KARA Native Aboriginal Drum Group, who have been performing for students in Niagara Catholic's schools, performed a song of honour and appreciation for the Board to express their gratitude for the relationship formed with the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

2. The 2010 Global Best Awards

Superintendent Baldasaro presented background information on The Global Best Awards. Marco Magazzeni, Consultant K-12 Technology/Specialist High Skills Major and Andrew Keltos, Cyberquest Teacher, St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Welland, presented information on Niagara Catholic's application and submission to the Conference Board of Canada, in collaboration with the International Partnership Network, for the 2010 Global Best Awards.

The Board's video presentation "Global Challenges – Partnerships in Education" was selected as a 2010 Global Best Award recipient in the Global Challenges category in April. Niagara Catholic has been invited to receive this award and to present its submission at the conference in Toronto.

3. Renewable Energy Projects

James Woods, Controller of Plant, presented the report on the Renewable Energy Projects. The Niagara Catholic District School Board has received funding support for renewable energy technology projects at Our Lady of Fatima and St. Joseph Catholic Elementary Schools in Grimsby in the amount of \$1,898,746 to install rooftop solar photovoltaic systems on the two replacement school buildings, which are now under construction. The Electricity generated will be fed back to the power grid and, through a long-term “Feed-In-Tariff” contract with the Ontario Power Authority, is expected to return approximately \$184,800 per year to the Board energy budget.

4. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities for information. Administrator Syne elaborated on the Principal Performance Appraisal which will assist Principals and Vice-Principals along their journey as Catholic leaders.

5. Extended Overnight Field Trip/Excursion/Exchange Trip Approvals 2009-2010

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the information report from the Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee.

6. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management

Director Crocco presented the monthly Board report on the H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management.

7. Financial Reports

7.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Crole

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

7.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Crole

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

8. Monthly Updates

8.1 Policy Development Update

Director Crocco presented the Policy Development Update.

8.2 Capital Projects Progress Report

James Woods, Controller of Plant, presented the Capital Projects Progress Report.

8.3 Student Trustees' Update

Megan Grocholsky, Student Trustee, gave a brief verbal update on the activities of the Student Senate.

8.4 Family of Schools Superintendents' Monthly Update

The Family of Schools Superintendents gave brief verbal reports highlighting the activities in their schools.

Superintendent Ciarlo

- A team of students accompanied by staff from St. Denis Catholic Elementary School will be competing in the FIRST Lego League SMART MOVE World Festival in Atlanta, Georgia in April.
- Rick Dykstra, Member of Parliament for St. Catharines, produced a calendar booklet which includes art from the students at St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School.
- A family at St. Mark Catholic Elementary School in Beamsville, take their children out of school for a month every year and travel to third world countries. This year they will be visiting Guatemala.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells

- Our Lady of Victory Catholic Schools
 - Staff and students held an "Opening Ceremony" and a "Closing Ceremony" to celebrate the Winter Olympic Games. Staff and Students had the chance to speak to Mr. Sandy Annunziata, Torch bearer # 199.
 - The Carousel Players performed the play "Danny, King of the Basement" to Grade 4-8 students. Canadian Tire Corporation funded this event.
 - The Grade 7 and 8 students are preparing for the annual presentation of the STATIONS of the CROSS. This production includes stage design, costumes, rehearsals and lighting.
- The St. Kevin Catholic Elementary community participated in Mission Day raising \$2,410.50 for needy children throughout the world.
- St. Mary Catholic Elementary School in Welland held a "Literacy Olympics" event to promote literacy in the home and inspire the children to work hard to achieve their goals.
- Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School students in the Primary, Junior, and Intermediate divisions took part in ecological presentations. Representatives from Walker Brothers, Inc., the City of Niagara Falls, All Things Fair, and the Niagara Peninsula Energy staff presented to students.
- St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School students composed and recorded songs with the assistance of recording engineer Rob Hanson about anti-bullying and the importance of proper hand hygiene.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – February 23, 2010

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – February 23, 2010 issue for Trustees' information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – March 2010

Director Crocco presented information on the Calendar of Events – March 2010.

1.3 Niagara Catholic Skills Competition – March 9, 2010

Director Crocco presented information on the Niagara Catholic Skills Competition – March 9, 2010.

1.4 March Break 2010 – March 15 – 19, 2010

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that March Break 2010 will be taking place March 15-19, 2010.

**1.5 Niagara Regional Catholic Council Annual Spring Convention
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School – March 27, 2010**

Director Crocco invited Trustees to attend the Niagara Regional Catholic Council Annual Spring Convention Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School – March 27, 2010.

1.6 CCSTA'S 50th AGM

Director Crocco informed Trustees of CCSTA's 50th AGM taking place June 3-5, 2010 in Ottawa and asked that they inform Sherry Morena if they plan on attending by the March Board Meeting.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

1.1 Elementary Principal and Secondary Vice-Principal Interviews

Director Crocco presented information on the Elementary Principal and Secondary Vice-Principal Interview process and schedule.

The Secondary Vice-Principal interviews are scheduled for March 25, 2010, and the Elementary Principal interviews are scheduled for March 31, 2010.

The Director stated that in accordance with Board Policy 202.2 Catholic Leadership: Principal and Vice-Principal Selection, Human Resources is in the process of finalizing the Interview Committees which requires one trustee appointed by the Chair of the Board.

Chairperson Burtnik invited Trustees to inform her of their availability to participate on the interview committees.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Meeting at 8:55 p.m. and reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Crole

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2010.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section A: Student Trustees Present held on February 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section B: Student Trustees Excluded held on February 9, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F4 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F6.2 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F6.2)

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the March 9, 2010 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **March 9, 2010.**

Approved on the **13th** day of **April 2010.**

John Dekker
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FEBRUARY 2010**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February 2010, as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: March 30, 2010



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MARCH 9, 2010**

**MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2010**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February 2010 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a monthly list of payments is available in the Holy Cross Community Room for the TRUSTEES to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February 2010 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: March 9, 2010

Appendix A

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON BANKING TRANSACTIONS	
SUMMARY OF BANK TRANSACTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF:	FEBRUARY, 2010
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	BANK ACCOUNT
CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF MONTH	(A) 39,585,512
OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH	
1. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE GRANTS	14,451,489
2. OTHER GRANTS (EPO, O.E.Y.C.)	223,023
3. INTEREST REVENUE	10,985
4. MUNICIPAL TAXES	27,775
5. TUITION FEES REVENUE - A.C.E. & OTHER	194,435
6. CHARITABLE DONATIONS	1,930
7. GOVERNMENT REBATES (GST 68% REBATE ON TAXABLE PURCHASES)	93,719
8. RECOVERY OF COSTS (LTD, WCB, BENEFITS, OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS))	143,383
9. OTHER CASH RECEIPTS	
- Reimbursements of Employee Benefits	15,874
- Donations Collected from Employees for Haiti Relief	40,185
10. PROCEEDS FROM DEBENTURE ISSUE (NET)	0
11. CAPITAL LOAN PRINCIPAL ADVANCES	0
TOTAL OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS AND LOAN ADVANCE	(B) 15,202,799
OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH	
1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (NET OF CANCELLED CHEQUES AND DEBT REPAYMENTS)	(18,439,493)
2. TEACHER PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(1,114,409)
3. O.M.E.R.S. PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(325,779)
4. CANADA SAVINGS BONDS DEDUCTIONS	(127,112)
5. TRANSFER TO 4 OVER 5 TRUST ACCOUNTS	0
6. OTHER DEBITS	(33,520)
7. INTEREST PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	0
8. PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	0
TOTAL OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS	(C) (20,040,312)
CASH BALANCE AT END OF MONTH	(D) 34,747,998
A + B - C = D	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON LOAN BALANCES				
SUMMARY OF LOAN BALANCES AS AT : FEBRUARY, 2010				
The Debentures & Capital Loans are made up as follows:				
Loan Description	Opening Balance	Loan Advances	Loan Repayments	Ending Balance
1. GPL1 Loan 25 YR.	(13,028,391.51)			(13,028,391.51)
2. GPL2 Loan 25 YR.	(10,014,902.14)			(10,014,902.14)
3. GPL3 Loan 25 YR.	(4,634,903.39)			(4,634,903.39)
6. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(2,112,000.00)			(2,112,000.00)
7. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(3,539,000.00)			(3,539,000.00)
8. Capital Projects - Completed 2001	(20,948,657.64)			(20,948,657.64)
9. Capital Projects - Completed 2002/03	(22,328,838.18)			(22,328,838.18)
10. Capital Projects - Completed 2004/05	(9,016,231.97)			(9,016,231.97)
11. Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	(8,056,758.32)			(8,056,758.32)
Total Debentures & Capital Loans	(93,679,683.15)	0.00	0.00	(93,679,683.15)

PREPARED BY : William Tumath
PRESENTED BY: Larry Reich

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES
FEBRUARY 28, 2010**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2010, as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: March 30, 2010



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MARCH 9, 2010**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2010**

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2010 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a copy of the Financial Statements is available in the Holy Cross Community Room for the TRUSTEES to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2010 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: March 9, 2010

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2010

ACCOUNT DISCRIPTION	THIS YEAR					LAST YEAR		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% AVAIL	\$ AVAIL	COMMITTED	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% AVAIL
REVENUE								
REVENUE	-116,090,548	-230,111,033	49.6%	-114,020,485	0	-112,025,152	-221,457,182	49.4%
TOTAL REVENUE	-116,090,548	-230,111,033	49.6%	-114,020,485	0	-112,025,152	-221,457,182	49.4%
EXPENDITURES								
BOARD ADMINISTRATION	3,606,455	7,315,444	50.7%	3,708,989	281,966	3,752,024	7,168,736	47.7%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	53,673,232	108,279,161	50.4%	54,605,929	429,614	52,759,906	103,557,495	49.1%
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	32,489,824	65,163,057	50.1%	32,673,233	344,519	31,487,986	62,845,816	49.9%
CONTINUING EDUCATION	2,830,940	6,497,202	56.4%	3,666,262	157,967	2,681,791	5,986,817	55.2%
PLANT OPERATIONS	8,036,108	16,631,386	51.7%	8,595,278	286,551	8,493,915	16,683,203	49.1%
PLANT MAINTENANCE	1,623,623	3,538,658	54.1%	1,915,035	163,732	1,634,788	3,358,014	51.3%
TRANSPORTATION	4,997,018	10,641,107	53.0%	5,644,089	9	5,470,577	10,779,861	49.3%
CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	3,376,064	12,045,018	72.0%	8,668,954	275,513	3,719,570	11,077,240	66.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	110,633,264	230,111,033	51.9%	119,477,769	1,939,871	110,000,557	221,457,182	50.3%

PREPARED BY : William Tumath
Finance Department

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2010**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of February 7, 2010, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Racine.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chair Racine.

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Anna Racine (Chair)	The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario	✓		
Kim Rosati (Vice-Chair)	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	✓		
Connie Parry	Association for Bright Children	✓		
Heather Schneider	Community Living-Welland/Pelham		✓	
Carole Fuhrer	Learning Disabilities Association		✓	
Sarina Labonte	Community Living-Grimsby, Lincoln & West Lincoln	✓		
Rob Lavorato	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)	✓		
Mike Gowan	Autism Ontario	✓		
Jim Wells	John Howard Society of Niagara	✓		
Dianne Radunsky	Ontario Brain Injury Association	✓		
Mona O'Brien	IEWS	✓		
Trustees				
Gary Crole		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education; **Marcel Jacques**, Administrator Special Education; **Ken Griepsma**, Principal – Secondary; **Mary Kay Kalagian**, Principal – Elementary; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Sarina Labonte
Seconded by Connie Parry

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of February 3, 2010.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 6, 2010

Moved by Connie Parry
Seconded by Rob Lavorato

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 6, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. VISIONING

1. Goals and Vision for 2008/2009 – Committee Vision

A copy of the Proposed Goals/Objectives for 2008/2009 school year was included in the February agenda package for information. Chair Racine reviewed the completed goals with the SEAC which will be posted on the Board's website.

1.1 Review of the Goals and Vision for 2009/2010

A copy of the Proposed Goals/Objectives for 2009/2010 school year was presented to the members for information and review. A suggestion was made to create two working documents which will comprise of a list of ongoing goals and a list of completed goals. Chair Racine and Vice-Chair Rosati will revise and update these lists and bring them forward at the March 3rd SEAC meeting.

1.2 SEAC Network research and update

A copy of the Provincial Parent Association Advisory Committee (PAAC) on SEAC was included in the February agenda for information. Staff contacted the Education Officer of the Ministry of Education and at this time there is not a list of SEAC Chairs within the Province. Connie Parry will investigate the possibility of having the PAAC on SEAC do a future presentation. More information will follow.

1.3 Survey to ERTs

There was discussion about the ERT survey. Staff and a core working group from the SEAC met to discuss and make preparations. A decision was made to have an ERT discussion at the April 20th ERT meeting with the members of the SEAC in attendance. A follow up meeting will be planned to make final preparations.

1.4 January Message from the Director of Education

A suggestion was made to create a link of the *January Message from the Director of Education* on the Board website, under Special Education. The message includes information about the Special Education Advisory Committee. Superintendent Baldasaro will move forward with this request.

1.5 Investigate Teleconference Abilities for Future Committee Meetings

Superintendent Baldasaro will investigate the possibility of having teleconference abilities.

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 6, 2010

1. Learner Advocacy

2. Parent Outreach

2.1 Newsletter Insert

Chair Racine and Vice-Chair Rosati provided a newsletter insert regarding the annual review of the Special Education Plan – *Building Bridges to Services 2010 and Beyond*. This information was sent to Principals on January 15th, 2010 to submit in their upcoming newsletters. In future, all newsletter inserts will be included in the SEAC agenda package.

3. Program and Service Recommendations

4. Special Education Budget

4.1 Letter to Ministry of Education

The letter to the Ministry of Education in regards to funding for psychological and speech and language assessments was approved at the January 26th, 2010 Board meeting. A copy will be sent to the Ministry of Education as well as the SEAC Chairs for Ontario District School Boards.

4.2 LHINS Presentation Update

Sarina Labonte informed the SEAC members that the Local Health Integration Network (LHINS) will do a presentation at the April 7th SEAC meeting.

5. Annual Review, Special Education Plan

6. Other Related Items

7. Policy Review

- 7.1** Chair Racine responded on behalf of the SEAC in regards to the Safe Arrival Policy. The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines were sent electronically to the SEAC for information; 1) Progressive Student Discipline Policy (Safe Schools) - Interim, 2) Admission of Students Policy – Interim Administrative Guidelines, 3) Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (Safe Schools) – Interim, and 4) Formulation of Policy Policy. Chair Racine suggested that any comments or suggestions can be forwarded to her by March 5th, 2010 and she will submit them on behalf of the SEAC. Vetting closes March 10th, 2010. The 2010-2011 School Year Calendar Consultation Process was sent electronically to the SEAC members for information. Any comments or suggestions can be forwarded to Chair Racine by February 8th, 2010 to submit on behalf of the SEAC. Feedback is due by February 11th, 2010 at 8:30a.m.

E. AGENCY REPORTS

1. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Kim Rosati

- Nil Report

2. Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Rob Lavorato

- Annual General Meeting is in March.
- Working on the October 2010 Provincial Conference in Niagara Falls.

3. Community Living – Welland/Pelham – Heather Schneider

- Nil Report

4. Association for Bright Children – Connie Parry

- Nil Report

5. Community Living – Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln – Sarina Labonte

- Community consultations continue to take place with families self-advocates, and service providers with respect to various draft regulations of the new Bill 77; Application entities and funding entities are part of this legislation and will impact how families are accessing services for adults; children's services in the developmental and mental health sectors will continue to access Contact Niagara locally.
- Niagara Child and Youth Services is launching a program that will enable clinical services to be available on a mobile basis for children and youth who have a dual diagnosis; An information session on this new program will be provided in the new year.
- An international Rights symposium is being hosted in Niagara Falls on the 21st & 22nd of April in partnership with Brock University and a number of provincial and Niagara agencies;
- Community Living Ontario is also hosting a number of conferences:
 - Communication Conference in Orillia - February 10-12th**
 - Inclusive Education Conference - February 25th** (subsidies are available upon request)
 - Youth Conference - March 5-7th** (cost is \$125.00 per student)
 - Community Living Ontario Annual General Meeting and Conference in Richmond Hill – May 26-29th**

6. Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara – Carole Fuhrer

- *Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario - Response to Learning for All Consultation Questions.* This document is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

7. Autism Ontario – Mike Gowan

- Nil Report

8. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine

- Nil Report

9. John Howard Society of Niagara – Jim Wells

- Nil Report

10. Ontario Brain Injury Association – Dianne Radunsky

- The Ontario Brain Injury Association (OBIA) is still averaging 300 calls per month to our Support Services department. The greater part of our calls come from survivors and family/caregivers. The majority of professionals who call are looking for referrals to services, literature on ABI and many are inquiring about our training programs. We do receive a number of calls from college/university students working on a project or others who are interested in specializing in the ABI field.
- In December of 2009 OBIA, added the Brain Injury Association of Thunder Bay to their list of community ABI associations participating in the Peer Mentoring program. Collectively, we have been able to train 134 Mentors. There have been 132 partners across Ontario who have sought support through this program. The objective for 2010 is to increase marketing efforts and expand our reach. Currently, we have 15 ABI community associations participating in the Peer Mentoring program.
- OBIA reports 130 educational assistants from the Near North Board of Education taking our “Brain Basics” training program. John has been in discussion with a probation officer from the Ministry of Youth Justice with respect to, hopefully, taking our Brain Basics course in that direction.
- November’s “Children and Youth with Acquired Brain Injury” training was attended by 70 professionals from the discipline of psychology, occupational therapy, nursing, personal support workers and caregivers/parents. The next Level I training program Neurorehabilitation: “Assisting Recovery and Function in Everyday Life Following Brain Injury” will be held on Feb. 22-25, 2010 at Brock University.
- In January our director John Kumpf met with representatives from the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Association, the Learning Disabilities Association, The ADHD Association and the Tourettes Association to discuss a response to the Ministry of Education’s “discussion paper” on neurologically based disabilities and how the needs of children with these disabilities better manage classrooms. The conclusion was that key strategies would be to provide awareness and training to educators to improve their understanding of these students. There is a meeting scheduled on Feb. 26, 2010 to meet with a representative from the policy Department of the Ministry of Education.
- John has been invited by an instructor to an Additional Qualification course on Special Education to make a presentation to 20 teachers who are taking the Special Education Part I course.
- Our calls have increased from parents of students who have a brain injury who are slated to start high school this coming September. The chief concern is, as usual, the students are deemed to be “slow learners” who will be put in a congregated class with a severely watered down curriculum. Transitions are always challenging and once again the answer is awareness and training.
- The good news is that we are getting more opportunities to provide the training and our expectation is that as the word gets around the requests will increase.
- Should anyone have any questions or would like to know more about our programs, please call us at 905-641-8877.

11. IEWS – Mona O’Brien

- Nil Report

F. STAFF REPORTS

1. Mary Kay Kalagian – Principal, Elementary

- Nil Report

2. Ken Griepsma – Principal, Secondary

- Exams have been completed and a new semester has begun. IPRC's were held at each Catholic secondary school over the course of the semester one final exam week. Final copies of the Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for semester one will be sent home with the Final Provincial Report Cards for the semester. IEP's for semester two are currently being developed.
- All eight of our Catholic secondary schools are reporting that the Assistive Technology course for students with special needs is running smoothly and growing. Some schools have reported increased use of Assistive Technology as a School Improvement Plan goal.
- Further, schools reported that high numbers of special needs students participated in a co-op experience during first semester with most continuing on into this semester.
- Our various Resource Departments are continuing to prepare for this year's OSSLT by working with students on areas of need and providing further opportunities for special needs students to use Assistive Technology.
- One school's Resource Department reports the donation of a Wii system for use by students with special needs. It is hoped that this game system will serve as an excellent tool for various occupational and physio-therapy programs, assisting our students to become more independent in their physical tasks!
- Upcoming events include a Special Needs Valentine's Day dance at St. Michael Catholic High School on February 18th and a "Hollywood" themed event at Lakeshore Catholic High School on March 9th.

3. Marcel Jacques – Administrator Special Education

- Marcel Jacques informed SEAC members that exam week was last week.
- Behaviour Management Training (BMS) took place on January 25th, 26th and 29th, 2010.
- Special Education staff are working with pre-school providers on transition meetings.

4. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education

- Early Learning Program, Junior and Senior Kindergarten registrations will take place in all Catholic Elementary schools throughout the month of February. Open Houses were held on February 3rd, 2010.
- Superintendent Baldasaro and Marcel Jacques attended the Regional Special Education Council meeting in London on January 27th – 29th, 2010.
- February 25th and 26th staff will be attending the Equity and Inclusive Education Conference being held in Niagara Falls.

G. TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Gary Crole – Trustee

- The December 2nd, 2009 SEAC minutes were approved at the January 26th Board meeting.

2. Maurice Charbonneau– Trustee

- Nil Report

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Learner Advocacy

2. Parent Outreach

2.1 IEP Survey

The Elementary and Secondary Individual Education Plan (IEP) surveys were presented to the SEAC members for information. Surveys will be attached to second term IEP's for parents/guardians to complete and return to their schools. Staff will gather data and results will be announced in the fall.

3. Program and Service Recommendations

4. Special Education Budget

- #### **4.1**
- Superintendent Baldasaro will speak with Superintendent Reich in regards to a budget presentation.

5. Annual Review, Special Education Plan

6. Other Related Items

6.1 SEAC Logo

There was discussion about creating a SEAC logo. A suggestion was made to target schools for a design. This message will be addressed at the Secondary Principal's meeting. SEAC members were encouraged to think of ideas and provide feedback at the March 3rd SEAC meeting.

7. Policy Review

I. CORRESPONDENCE

J. NOTICES OF MOTION

K. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

M. INFORMATION ITEMS

L. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Sarina Labonte

Seconded by Kim Rosati

THAT the February 3, 2010 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

TOPIC: 2010 TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS COMPETITION

The report on the
2010 Technological Skills Competition
is presented for information.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
David Pihach, Administrator – Student Success
Marco Magazzeni, Consultant – Technology/Specialist High Skills Major

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
David Pihach, Administrator – Student Success
Marco Magazzeni, Consultant – Technology/Specialist High Skills Major

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: March 30, 2010



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO BOARD MEETING MARCH 30, 2010

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD 2010 TECHNOLOGY SKILLS COMPETITION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Each year, hundreds of Niagara Catholic students learn about the many career opportunities available to them in the skilled trades through programs offered at their schools. For the past six years, Niagara Catholic has provided students with the opportunity to showcase what they have learned in class in an annual Technology Skills Competition. This year, more than 200 students in Grades 10-12 took part in the Niagara Catholic Technology Skills Competition, which took place at the Glendale Campus of Niagara College in Niagara-on-the-Lake on March 4th, 2010, and at the former Canadian Tire store on Niagara Street in Welland on March 9th and 10th, 2010.

Students from all eight Catholic secondary schools competed in categories ranging from culinary arts and baking, to desktop publishing and web design, homebuilding, landscape design and automotive repair. The students with the highest scores qualified for the Skills Ontario competition at RIM Park in Waterloo May 17th to 19th, 2010. The national Skills Canada competition will run from May 20th to 23th, 2010. Last year, students from Niagara Catholic competed at the national level.

This year, Grade 9 students across Niagara Catholic were on hand while the students competed, allowing them the opportunity to learn more about the trades programs offered at Niagara Catholic secondary schools.

A video presentation showing the events of the day accompany this report.

The results of the competition for each area are presented in the attached chart. (Appendix A)

The report on Niagara Catholic District School Board
2010 Technology Skills Competition is presented for information.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
David Pihach, Administrator – Student Success
Marco Magazzeni, Consultant – Technology/Specialist High Skills Major

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
David Pihach, Administrator – Student Success
Marco Magazzeni, Consultant – Technology/Specialist High Skills Major

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: March 30, 2010

NIAGARA CATHOLIC SKILLS COMPETITION 2010 RESULTS

Architectural Technology & Design	Gold	Jordan Lidgett , St. Francis
	Silver	Derek Smith , Saint Michael
	Bronze	Steven Joss , Lakeshore Catholic
Auto Service	Gold	Larry Czinege , Lakeshore Catholic
	Silver	Mark Van Kralingen , St. Francis
	Bronze	Joey Tapp , Lakeshore Catholic
Baking	Gold	Kayla MacLean , Lakeshore Catholic
	Silver	Myranda Levines , Lakeshore Catholic
	Bronze	Casey Cleveland , Lakeshore Catholic
Cabinet Making	Gold	Wes Calaguiro , Saint Paul
	Silver	Dylan Hughes , Lakeshore Catholic
Carpentry <i>team of 2</i>	Gold	Louie Steinhaus & Ryan Levesque , Saint Paul
	Silver	Zach Melo & Joshua Rampersaud , Blessed Trinity
	Bronze	Noah Page & Pat Toppazzini , Lakeshore Catholic
Carpentry <i>individual</i>	Gold	Zack Waldick , Lakeshore Catholic
	Silver	Jacob Gaudet , Notre Dame
	Bronze	Nick D'Uva , Saint Michael
Culinary Arts	Gold	John Dudar , Blessed Trinity
	Silver	Stephanie Perdue , Lakeshore Catholic
	Bronze	Curt Lawrence , Blessed Trinity
Desktop Publishing <i>individual</i>	Gold	Nick Giammarco , Notre Dame
	Silver	John Latham , Lakeshore Catholic
	Bronze	Connor Johnstone , Notre Dame
Electrical Wiring	Gold	Nick Morcone , Lakeshore Catholic
	Silver	Michael Smal , Saint Michael
	Bronze	Julian Butera , Notre Dame
Hairstyling <i>individual</i>	Gold	Sabrina Frechette , Holy Cross
	Silver	Janelle Krawczyk , Saint Michael
	Bronze	Diego Villacorta , Lakeshore Catholic
Homebuilding <i>team</i>	Gold	Brian Bodorkos, Curtis Wilcox, Lucas Schultz & Lucas Marinaccio - Lakeshore Catholic
	Silver	Nick Felice, Nick Cianflone, Austin Trojan & Cody Bates - Denis Morris
	Bronze	Kyle Krahn, Brian Schenck, Vanessa Gittings & Greg Skiba - St. Francis
Landscape Gardening <i>team of 2</i>	Gold	Nazz Tassone , Saint Paul & Colin Mayer , Saint Michael
	Silver	Jesse House & Ryan Lecompte , Lakeshore Catholic
	Bronze	Christian Hand , Lakeshore Catholic & Fatima Omar , Saint Michael
Photography <i>individual</i>	Gold	Rob Smith , Holy Cross
	Silver	Joanna Gigliotti , Saint Michael
	Bronze	Tricia Zaremba , Notre Dame
Plumbing	Gold	Hayden Molen , Lakeshore Catholic
	Silver	Dakota Egerter , Notre Dame
Video Production <i>team of 2</i>	Gold	Michelle Macdonald & Amanda Parke , St. Francis
	Silver	Adam Lalama & Danny Pawlik , Notre Dame
	Bronze	Alycia Cirocco & Laura Martinez , Denis Morris
Web Design <i>individual</i>	Gold	Kevin Gryp , St. Francis
	Silver	Nasir Dowlatkahi , Saint Michael
	Bronze	Nick Hatlevik , Saint Paul

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES
AND ANNUAL BUDGET TIMELINES 2010-2011**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines 2010-2011, as presented.

Prepared by: Administrative Council
Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: March 30, 2010



REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 30TH, 2010

NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND ANNUAL BUDGET TIMELINES 2010-2011

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The design of the 2010-2011 Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget by Administrative Council will follow the same organization, consultation and implementation process as 2009-2010 with discussions and input from Principals and staff through Director's Meetings, department staff at the Catholic Education Centre, Curriculum Councils, SEAC, Catholic School Councils and the Niagara Catholic Regional Catholic School Council / PIC. The four (4) main system priorities along with specific indicators within each priority will provide the framework to design the annual budget and to measure the achievement of the priority

Once the system priorities are approved by the Board, a poster sized copy of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2010-2011 will be sent to all schools and Board sites to be prominently displayed. A copy of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2010-2011 will also be sent to Bishop Wingle, SEAC, Catholic School Council Chairs and the Niagara Catholic Regional Catholic School Council / PIC. A copy will also be placed on the Board website.

Recently, information from the Ministry of Education has been provided to Directors of Education and Superintendents of Business and Financial Services on the upcoming release of the Grants for Student Needs (GSN's) for 2010-2011 through Business Memorandums and presentations to Directors of Education and various Senior Board Staff. Over the next number of weeks, the Ministry of Education will host regional technical meetings for Superintendents of Business and Financial Services to provide additional details on the transfer of funds for District School Board Budgets for 2010-2011.

With the presentation of the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan scheduled for the May 11th, 2010 Committee of the Whole meeting, the timelines for the submission of the 2010-2011 Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget to the Board have been aligned with the submission of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

The proposed timelines are presented for the Board's information and consideration. (Appendix A)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines 2010-2011, as presented.

Prepared By: Administrative Council

Presented By: John Crocco, Director of Education

Approved By: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: March 30th, 2010



NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND ANNUAL BUDGET TIMELINES 2010-2011

The following dates are general guidelines and are dependent on the release of specific funding information from the Ministry of Education.

DATE	ACTION
September 2009 to May 11 th , 2010	Vision 2020 Discovery Sessions and design of Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan
March – April 2010	Administrative Council members begin to draft System Priorities and Budget Proposals for 2010-2011
March 2010 Board Meeting	Presentation of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines – 2010-2011 for consideration
April – May 2010	Meetings with Principals, Administrators and Managers to review initial draft priorities and budget submissions
May 2010 Committee of the Whole	Presentation of the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan
May 2010 Board Meeting	Presentation of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Preliminary Annual Budget for review and recommendations to Senior Staff
May – June 2010	Presentation of 2010-2011 Preliminary Budget to SEAC, Niagara Catholic Regional Catholic School Council / PIC and a special Budget Information Night for Catholic School Council members for review and recommendations
June 2010 Committee of the Whole	Presentation of the Niagara Catholic Budget 2010-2011 and recommendations to the Board
June 2010 Board Meeting	Board to review and consider the recommended Niagara Catholic Budget 2010-2011 Budget
August / September 2010	Presentation of approved Niagara Catholic Budget 2010-2011 to Principals, Administrators and Managers
Fall 2010	Presentation of approved Niagara Catholic Budget 2010-2011 to SEAC and Niagara Catholic Regional Catholic School Council / PIC. Copy of approved Budget provided to all Catholic School Council Chairs

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: H1N1 PANDEMIC UPDATE
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PREPARATION AND MANAGEMENT**

The H1N1 Pandemic Update
– Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management
is presented for information.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: March 30, 2010



Living > [Public Health](#) > [Pandemic Planning](#)  

Flu Tracking in Niagara

[< H1N1 Home](#)

A community-wide outbreak was declared in Niagara on October 30, 2009. This means there is a significant amount of flu circulating in Niagara.

Niagara Region Public Health uses many sources of information to understand the amount of flu in the community. These sources include:

- Laboratory-confirmed cases of H1N1 and Influenza A/B
- Student absenteeism from elementary and high schools
- Visits to doctors for symptoms of the flu

Confirmed H1N1 Cases in Niagara

As of March 19, 2010:

- No confirmed cases during the week of Mar. 13 - 19, 2010
- 252 total confirmed cases
- 4 deaths associated with H1N1

School Absenteeism

There are 229 schools in the Niagara region. This chart shows the average number of schools reporting student absenteeism.

This information is not exact and some **students may have been absent for reasons other than H1N1**. This information is based on the 5-day school week.

Average # of Schools with >10%, 20% and 30% School Absenteeism by Week

Absenteeism Rates (Average # of schools with)	Wk 45* Nov 9-13	Wk 46 Nov 21-27	Wk 47 Nov 28-Dec 5	Wk 48 Dec 5-11	Wk 49 Dec 12-18
> 10% Absenteeism	17	7	6	5	9.8
> 20% Absenteeism	1	0	0	0	0
> 30% Absenteeism	0	0	0	0	0.8

Revised: Monday, March 08, 2010
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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
HOLY CROSS FATHERS – THANK YOU FOR DONATION**

English Canadian Holy Cross Fathers
117 Church Street West, Welland, Ontario L3C 4N9

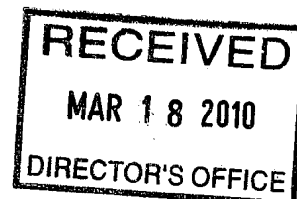
Phone: (905) 735-7594

Fax: (905) 732-7396

ecancsc@vaxxine.com

March 8, 2010

John Crocco,
Director of Education
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1



Dear John,

I take this opportunity to express my thanks to you and the Niagara Catholic District School Board for the money from the Bishop's Gala and the schools to support the rebuilding process in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti.

All Holy Cross confreres in Haiti are most grateful for – and deeply touched by – the funds as well as the prayers of the NCDSB community.

As you are aware, this has been and continues to be a very difficult period in the life of the Haitian people. There is no easy fix, but the concern of so many throughout the world has been and continues to be an inspiration to the people of Haiti and our Holy Cross community in Port-au-Prince and other areas.

Father Gerald Cormier, in a recent letter, highlighted the difficulties in trying to re-establish education programs in the country. Firstly, school buildings must be checked to ascertain whether or not they pass safety inspections. Secondly, the education program has been dealt a major blow, as the Collège Saint-Louis de Gonzague, which is responsible for publishing most of the class notes for the various subjects on elementary and secondary school curricula, is in ruins.

Always impressive is the resilient spirit and deep faith of the Haitian people. Father Cormier quotes an old woman squatter who lives in the Sisters' courtyard in Turgeau. She is absolutely destitute and yet reminds people regularly: "The God who raised Jesus from the dead will raise Haiti from this disaster as he has many other times."

Again, the sincere thanks of the Holy Cross community, including and maybe especially, the community here in Welland. Your generous gesture has touched us all very deeply.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John T. Vickers, CSC".

(Rev.) John T. Vickers, CSC
Superior, English Canadian Holy Cross Fathers

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION – THANK YOU FOR COPY OF
DIRECTOR’S ANNUAL REPORT 2009**

**Ministry
of Education**

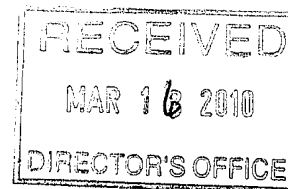
**Ministère
de l'Éducation**

London Regional Office
217 York St. Suite 207
2nd Floor West
London ON N6A 5P9
(519) 667-1440
1-800-265-4221
FAX (519) 667-9769

Bureau régional de London
217, rue York - bureau 207
2^e étage ouest
London ON N6A 5P9
(519) 667-1440
1 800 265-4221
Télécopieur (519) 667-9769

March 5, 2010

Mr. John Crocco
Director of Education
Niagara Catholic DSB
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1



Dear John,

Thank you for forwarding a copy of your *Annual Report of the Director of Education, December, 2009*. We appreciated receiving your report which included your board's notable accomplishments. Your report provided a very good summary of information for parents and other stakeholders in a clear, concise and easy-to-read format.

You and all of the staff of the Niagara Catholic District School Board are to be congratulated on steadily increasing your students' provincial EQAO test scores over the last six years. Of note were the greater than 15% increases in Grade 3 Boys Writing and Grade 6 Boys Reading. Your data also shows that almost one in five Grade 6 girls within your board increased their achievement levels to the provincial standard or higher in Writing over the same time period. In addition, between 2003-2004 and 2007-08, the number of English Language Learner students within your school board who have successfully completed the Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test has increased by 12%. These results are significant accomplishments that your school board has achieved.

Parents and community members would also be interested to see within your *Annual Report* your board's data on the Primary, Junior, and Grade 9 Mathematics EQAO tests for your board's English Language Learner students and special education students. This information would further highlight your board's very strong focus on supporting students with a wide range of needs. As well, data on the successful programs that Niagara Catholic District School Board currently offers to students who are unable to attend regular school programs (i.e., for students in care, custody, treatment programs, and suspended and expelled students) would reinforce the introductory statement made within your *Annual Report* to parents and the community regarding your board's commitment to support all students as they strive to achieve their learning goals.

John, it is very evident throughout your *Annual Report* that setting and maintaining high standards of academic excellence among your students and staff is an important priority. Your report outlined a wide variety of initiatives to support this priority including the work of Student Success Teams at each secondary school along with credit intervention strategies to support students at-risk, a revised teacher hiring practice designed to attract the best teachers, and a strong focus on differentiated instruction designed to meet the individual learning needs of your students. Your *Annual Report* also emphasized alternative learning opportunities for your students such as dual credit programs, a growing specialist high skills major program (SHSM) with the addition of an Arts and Culture SHSM program, and a vibrant adult and continuing education program.

The description provided in your *Annual Report* indicated parent and community engagement through a "... series of Discovery Sessions ..." which will shape the development of your board's "Vision 2020 Strategic Plan" due for release in May 2010. The Niagara Catholic District School Board school community would also be interested to learn about the many additional opportunities that your board currently makes available to parents and the community that allow them to be directly and meaningfully engaged in student learning.

You also noted in your *Annual Report* the current measures that the board has taken to align its Board and School Improvement Plan with the principles associated with the Ontario Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy. You and your staff are to be commended for taking the initial steps toward recognizing that the Ontario Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy goes beyond the development of a policy and involves a broad and deep cultural reform that supports and welcomes diversity among all students and families within the Niagara Catholic District School Board community.

Please share our congratulations and appreciation with your senior administration team, trustees, teachers and all of the support staff for the work they have done to help each student throughout your Niagara Catholic District School Board community achieve his/her greatest potential.

Sincerely,



Becky Menzies
Education Officer



Bill Bryce
Regional Manager

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
BROCK UNIVERSITY – CONGRATULATIONS ON NIAGARA
CATHOLIC’S RECEIPT OF 2010 GLOBAL BEST AWARD**

- **PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR
JACK LIGHTSTONE**
- **PROFESSOR AND DEAN, FACULTY OF EDUCATION
JAMES HEAP**



Brock University

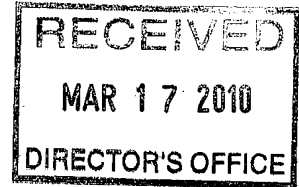
Faculty of Education
Office of the Dean

St. Catharines, Ontario
Canada L2S 3A1

Telephone (905) 688-5550 Ext. 3712
Fax (905) 685-4131

March 12, 2010

Mr. John Crocco
Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road,
Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1



Dear John:

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the Niagara Catholic School Board's receipt of a 2010 Global Best Award for the Americas. Nothing pleases me more than when stellar education is recognized for excellence, especially in our own backyard. Furthermore I congratulate you for being recognized on a global scale in the Role of Education in Meeting Global Challenges category.

Like the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Brock University too cherishes effective business practices, providing the best education and being a leader in the overall well being of our community. We sincerely appreciate our strong and ongoing partnerships in innovative programs such as the technology mentorship initiative, in addition to our long standing relationships that extend well beyond the typical field placement experience of our students.

Again, please accept my personal congratulations and I wish you an enjoyable occasion when receiving your award at the International Education Partnership Conference in Toronto. Best of luck with your Global Best Award submission.

Respectfully

James Heap, PhD
Professor and Dean
Faculty of Education



**Brock
University**

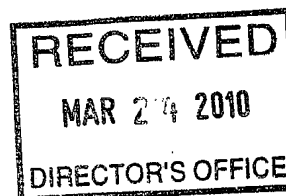
Office of the President
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1
T: 905-688-5550, Ext. 3333 F: 905-688-1255

www.brocku.ca

March 15, 2010

Mr. John Crocco
Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

John
Dear Mr. Crocco,



I was delighted to learn that the Niagara District Catholic School Board was recently named as one of the world's best school boards. Your outstanding accomplishment genuinely celebrates and reflects the board motto of "nurture souls and build minds."

To receive the 2010 Global Best Award in the category of Role of Education in Meeting Global Challenges is no small achievement. Your talented team of teachers, administrators and support staff – and the 24,000 students enrolled in your system – must be excited and proud to know that their board is now in the running for the overall global award in this category that showcases business and education partnerships in the community.

Like your alma mater of Brock University, the NDCSB is leading the way in education and contributing to the economic, cultural and social betterment of society. Your newest Specialist High Skills Major Program (SHSM) in Arts and Culture, which began in February this year, is a timely and important addition for a region that takes very seriously the economic, cultural and social benefits of arts and culture. We would be delighted to enroll arts and culture students from NDCSB into programs at Brock's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts as they seek to continue their education and fuel their creative passions.

The SHSM in Arts and Culture is only one of the excellent programs your board offers. Qualified students who graduate from other NDCSB programs and who seek to further their education at a post-secondary institution would be most welcome to apply to Brock. We provide a distinctive, dynamic and creative learning experience. We encourage students, faculty and staff to develop both sides of their brain – personally and academically – and become well-rounded individuals as unique as fingerprints.

Congratulations again, John, on your board's remarkable achievement.

Best regards,

Jack Lightstone
President and Vice Chancellor

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: GENERAL DISCUSSION TO PLAN FOR FUTURE ACTION
MINISTRY CONSULTATION RE: PARENT INVOLVEMENT
COMMITTEES**



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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Paula Peroni, *President*
Nancy Kirby, *Vice President*
John Stunt, *Executive Director*

March 11, 2010

TO: Chairpersons & Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: John Stunt, Executive Director

RE: **Ministry Consultation re: Parent Involvement Committees**

The Ministry has commenced a consultation regarding the development of a regulation to require every school board to have a Parent Involvement Committee (PIC).

OCSTA and the other trustee associations have had a preliminary meeting with the Ministry and we were informed that the regulation will be ready for implementation in September 2010. The regulation will be accompanied by a guide that will highlight “best practices” in this area.

OCSTA would appreciate receiving your board’s response to the questions in the attached Consultation Guide in order to assist us in preparing the Association’s submission to this consultation.

We would be grateful to receive your response by April 15, 2010. Your feedback can be sent to Jane Ponte (jponte@ocsta.on.ca).

Once again, thank you for your usual fine co-operation in responding to this request.

Attachment

L:\Usr\John\Boards\Parent Involvement Committees (PICs)\Boards.doc

Consultation Guide: Parent Involvement Committees (PICs)



As you are aware, Bill 177, the *Student Achievement and School Board Governance Act, 2009* has received Royal Assent, which will permit approval of a regulation to require every board in the province to have a PIC to reinforce the vital link between school and parents and bolster parent engagement at the grassroots level. The Ministry of Education welcomes your responses to the following consultation questions, which will be used to inform the development of a proposed new regulation, and are based on feedback from education stakeholders across Ontario to date. The Ministry acknowledges, with thanks, your participation in this important consultation.

The role and mandate of PICs:

The following is a list of possible areas of focus for PICs. Do you agree that PICs can make effective contributions in these areas? Should any of these be removed from consideration? Are there areas that should be added to this list?

- Seek the advice of parents, school councils and interested community members and communicate this advice to the director and trustees.
- Encourage dialogue among school councils, the PIC and the board on relevant board policies, such as those that affect student achievement.
- Provide advice to the director and trustees on how to engage parents in support of student achievement.
- Assess the level of parent involvement in matters that relate to student achievement at the board level.
- Develop and implement an action plan to enhance meaningful parent engagement as a key factor in supporting student achievement.
- Be involved in the development of board improvement plans.
- Provide information to school councils and parents about Ministry initiatives aimed at reducing barriers to parent engagement.
- Determine, in consultation with the director and the board, how parent engagement funding provided by the Ministry is to be allocated.

The role and responsibility of district school boards:

The relationship between the board and the PIC is important, and it is therefore important to establish roles for boards. In your view, are these reasonable expectations of boards?

- That the board consults with the PIC on policies and guidelines that affect student achievement, parents and families.
- That the board advises the PIC of actions taken in response to the PIC's advice.
- That the board provide appropriate facilities for PICs and make efforts to provide for members to attend meetings by electronic means.

PIC composition and voting:

Please comment on the following to support a robust and effective PIC:

Parent members

- Parents should make up the majority of PIC members.
- Eligible parents should be those who have a child attending a school within the board.
- An eligible parent may apply to the PIC for appointment to the committee.

Director and trustee

As PICs are intended to provide a direct link between parents and the director of education and trustees, is the following membership a reasonable expectation?

- The Director of Education, or designate (an Associate Director or Supervisory Officer)
- A trustee, or designate (a fellow trustee of the board)

Community members

Community members bring a perspective from outside education.

- Should there be community members?
- If yes, how many community members should there be? Should there be a maximum?
- If yes, should community members be appointed by the PIC? If so, should the PIC be required to develop a process for appointing community members?

Additional members

Are there additional members who should be considered (e.g. student, principal)?

Should they be included as required members, or as suggested members?

Voting or Non-voting:

Should it be specified which of the above categories that potentially make up the PIC are voting and non-voting?

- Parents?
- Director and trustee?
- Community members?
- Additional required/suggested members?

Term of membership:

Should there be a set term for the duration of a PIC member's appointment (e.g. one year or two years)?

Should there be an option for re-appointment? If so, should this be open-ended or limited?

To help ensure continuity should the terms of PIC members overlap, so that not all terms begin or end at the same time?

Should members of existing PICs be permitted to complete their terms prior to any new requirements coming into force regarding length of terms?

Election of chair or co-chairs:

Should there be an option for chair or co-chairs?

Should the chair or co-chairs be parent members? If co-chairs, should both co-chairs be required to be parent members?

Should it be specified that the chair or co-chairs be elected by members of the PIC?

PIC meetings:

Frequency and attendance...

Should a minimum number of PIC meetings in a year be specified? If yes, how many?

Should there be an option for PIC members to make alternate arrangements to attend meetings (e.g. by electronic means)?

Should it be specified that all PIC meetings be open to and accessible by the public?

Majority requirement for meetings...

Should it be specified that PIC meetings cannot be held unless there is a majority of members present at the meeting?

If yes, should it be required that a majority of those members present be parents?

To help ensure the communication link between parents and the director and trustees, should it be specified that PIC meetings cannot be held in the absence of the Director and the trustee (or their designates)?

PIC meetings: Records

PICs are an important conduit for information between school councils and the broader community, and the board and are a key vehicle for enhancing parent involvement in support of student achievement at the board level. Records will assist in this very important function, and will help ensure transparency and accountability.

Should it be specified that:

- Meeting minutes and financial records should be recorded and maintained by the PIC?
- Meeting minutes should be posted on the board website and distributed to all school councils of the board?
- PICs should submit a written annual report on its activities to the board?
- Directors should make the annual report available to all school councils and post it on the board website?

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC
MARCH 9, 2010**



Spotlight

ON

NIAGARA CATHOLIC

Nurturing Souls & Building Minds

www.niagaracatholic.ca

March 9, 2010

Niagara Catholic Receives Global Best Award

Niagara Catholic will receive an award from the Conference Board of Canada and the International Partnership Network during the 10th Annual Business Partnership Conference in Toronto in April.

In December, 2009, Marco Magazzeni, Niagara Catholic's K-12 Technology and Specialist High Skills Major Consultant, and Andrew Keltos, a Cyberquest instructor at St. Mary Catholic Elementary School in Welland, prepared a video entry to the competition. Titled *Global Challenges - Partnerships in Education*, the video highlighted Niagara Catholic's many partnerships with industry and community organizations throughout Niagara.

On February 23rd, Niagara Catholic was informed that the Board has been selected as a 2010 Global Best Award recipient in the Global Challenges category and has been invited to present the video submission at the conference in April.

In addition to receiving the Global Best Award, Niagara Catholic is also in contention to be named the overall region winner for the Americas and to win the overall competition.

Those winners will be announced during the International Education Business Partnership Conference, *Making a Difference in Today's Global Economy - The Power of Partnership* April 25th-28th in Toronto.

Aboriginal Culture Thriving at Niagara Catholic Schools

Aboriginal education is alive and well in Niagara Catholic schools.

The Ministry of Education has identified Aboriginal education as one of its key priorities, with a focus on meeting two challenges by 2016: Improving student achievement among Inuit, Metis and First Nation students and to close the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students in the areas of literacy and numeracy, student retention, graduation rates and advancement to post-secondary education.

The program also increases the understanding of Aboriginal culture by non-Aboriginal students.

To meet these goals, Niagara Catholic applied to and received funding from the Ministry of Education to provide special programming to broaden awareness of Aboriginal culture in Niagara Catholic schools. The funding has made it possible to bring Aboriginal drummers and dancers into schools, to host a Catholic Secondary School Aboriginal Education Symposium for students, teachers and administrators, to appoint an Aboriginal Education Liaison Co-ordinator and to offer a Grade 10 class specializing in the Aboriginal Peoples in Canada at Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School and Lakeshore Catholic High School.

Since receiving funding approval, Niagara Catholic staff have been working towards the full implementation of these initiatives.

Niagara Catholic 6th Annual Skills Competition



Vanessa Gittings, left, and Diego Villacorta, were two of more than 200 Niagara Catholic high school students who took part in the 6th Annual Niagara Catholic Skills Competition this month. A list of winners and a photo gallery is available online at niagaracatholic.ca.

Niagara Catholic to Generate Energy from Rooftop Solar Panels at Two New Grimsby Schools

Niagara Catholic will receive \$1.9 million to install solar panel systems at two west-Niagara schools currently under construction.

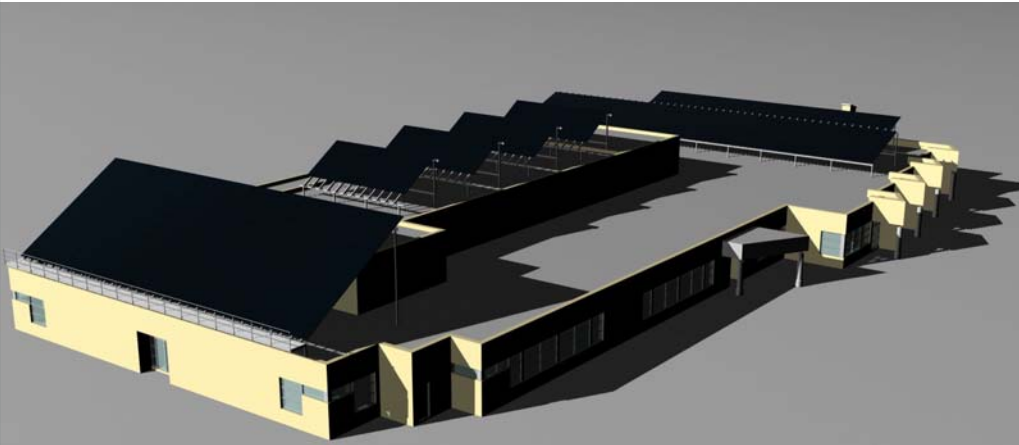
On February 19th, the Ministry of Education informed Director of Education John Crocco the Board will receive \$943,373 for each school, to install rooftop solar photovoltaic systems at St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary Schools in Grimsby.

In a report to the Board at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on March 9th, Controller of Plant James Woods said the two new school projects offered an excellent opportunity for Niagara Catholic to install large solar photovoltaic systems. The systems allow electricity generated by the solar panels to be fed back to the power grid. Through a "Feed in Tariff" contract with the Ontario Power Authority, the panels are expected to return approximately \$185,000 per year to the Board's energy budget.

During construction, each school will be equipped with framing to support a total of 504 solar panels. A web-enabled data acquisition system to monitor the energy generated is also included. A 40-inch display streaming the output will be placed in a prominent location of each school so staff and students can have a constant reminder of the solar power system.

The data system will also include a weather monitoring system, which will monitor the room temperature and the temperature of the solar panels, wind speed and direction. This will show how a grid connected to a solar power system functions.

This new solar photovoltaic system will tie into the Board's philosophy of environmental stewardship. All Niagara Catholic schools have fully implemented the Ontario EcoSchools environmental education program, which incorporates energy and energy conservation ideas in all grades. The new system will tie into this program, as well as other learning opportunities at all Niagara Catholic schools, due to the systems monitoring and data acquisition opportunities available over Niagara Catholic's computer network.



Two Niagara Catholic Elementary Schools will not only use less power once they are in operation in September, 2011, they will also put energy back onto the grid. When they are constructed, St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary Schools in Grimsby will have among the largest arrays of solar panels installed in Canada. The systems are expected to be in operation by August 31, 2011. The image above is a rendering of the design for Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School.

A+++

+ Congratulations to the First Lego League team from St. Denis Catholic Elementary School in St. Catharines. The 10-member team has been invited to take part in the First Lego League (FLL) World Championships in Atlanta, Georgia, in April. The team was selected as a FLL Core Ambassadors Team, based on their actions at competitions throughout the FLL season. The St. Denis team is one of only four Canadian teams which will join 80 other schools from around the world at the First Lego League World Festival. The members of St. Denis' FLL team are: Braydon Miron, Bailey Paddy, Joseph Ross, Averie Tonner, Christopher Young, Teniel Timoll, Sabrina Regudo, Annie Yang, Fiona Peiris and Kate Tan. The FLL team is coached by Miss MacSporran, Mrs. Antonio and Mrs. Lee

+ Congratulations to students at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School in Welland, which celebrated World Mission Day by raising more than \$2,400 for Development and Peace via the Holy Cross Fathers and the Holy Childhood Association.

+ Congratulations to students at St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School in Fort Erie, who have recently recorded a CD. Songs have messages about the importance of proper hand hygiene, anti-bullying and the importance of promoting peace. Students will be available to download the songs, and the music will also be available on a CD. Video of the students recording their songs is available at YouTube.com.

Congratulations!



Don't forget to spring ahead on March 14th!

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MARCH 30, 2010**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – APRIL 2010**

April 2010

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

11 National Cancer Month



12 Celebrating Primary Artists Opening Gala



13 Committee of the Whole Mtg

14 Celebrating Primary Artists Opening Gala

15 Niagara Catholic Celebrates Music Festival -BrockU

16 Niagara Catholic Celebrates Music Festival -BrockU

17 Int'l Mother Earth Day

18 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

19 - Board Mtg
- Policy Committee Mtg
- Regional Heritage Fair (Brock)

20 Maundy Thursday



21 SEAC Mtg



22 Int'l Mother Earth Day

23 National Day of Mourning: Remembering lives lost or injured in the workplace

24 National Day of Mourning: Remembering lives lost or injured in the workplace

25 Board Mtg

26 - Policy Committee Mtg
- Regional Heritage Fair (Brock)

27 National Day of Mourning: Remembering lives lost or injured in the workplace

28 National Day of Mourning: Remembering lives lost or injured in the workplace



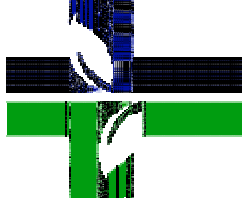
29 Good Friday



30 World Health Day



National Wildlife Week, April 4 – 10, 2010



Niagara Catholic District School Board

Events posted at www.niagaracatholic.ca