



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2008

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 25, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

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

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Crole.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire	✓	
Christina Volpini	✓	

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; Yolanda Baldasaro, Rob Ciarlo, Frank Iannantuono, Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendents of Education; Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development; Christine Graham, Program Officer - Curriculum; Marcel Jacques, Program Officer - Student Support Services; James Woods, Controller of Plant; Sherry Morena, Recording Secretary

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of November 25, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED

4. *Disclosure of Interest*

Trustees Belcastro and Dekker declared Disclosures of Interest with items F8.1, F8.2, F8.3 and F8.4 of the In Camera Agenda. These Trustees have families members who are employees of the Board and refrained from voting on these items.

5. *Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 28, 2008*

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 28, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. *Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School - The Wiz*

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Joe Zaroda, Principal, and Mario Geremia and Andrew Boone, Vice-Principals of Holy Cross Catholic Elementary School. Mr. Zaroda introduced the cast members of the production of "The Wiz" who were in attendance to perform a musical score for the Board. Mr. Zaroda thanked teachers Darren Craig, JP Dupont and Kerry Farrell for sharing their many talents with the students and making this production possible.

Chairperson Nieuwesteeg thanked the students for their wonderful performance and asked St. Catharines Trustees Burtnik and Charbonneau to present the students with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in the Arts" pins as a token of the Board's appreciation.

2. *St. Philomena Catholic Elementary Safe School Action Team*

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Marie McKee, Principal of St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School who showcased the Safe School Action Team Plan which focuses on the Niagara Catholic District School Board's Gospel Values. The Plan concentrates on the teaching tools used in the schools to provide the students with a safe learning environment.

Mrs. McKee spoke on the special initiative which reinstills in students the power of forgiveness, and living in the present and not the past. A few staff members, parents and students from the Safe School Action Team presented a prayer on forgiveness.

3. *EcoSchools Celebration at Lakeshore Catholic*

Director Crocco introduced the EcoSchools Celebration at Lakeshore Catholic video presentation. The presentation featured a few of the highlights of the Celebration of September 26, 2008, including a clip of Dr. Roberta Bondar's address.

Director Crocco informed Trustees that forty-seven (47) of Niagara Catholic District School Board's elementary and secondary schools were recognized with EcoShools certification at the Celebration. The Director publicly thanked Lakeshore Catholic High School for hosting the event.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 11, 2008 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 11, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 11, 2008.

1.1 Financial Reports

1.1.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Dekker
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of October 2008, as presented for information.

CARRIED

1.1.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at October 31, 2008, as presented for information.

CARRIED

2. Preparation of the Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2007-2008

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services, presented the report on the Preparation of the Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2007-2008, pointing out that the Ministry of Education requires School Boards to submit Audited Financial Statements and Grant Schedules on an annual basis, and answered Trustees questions.

Superintendent Reich stated that during this time of economic uncertainty, Senior Staff is pleased to present very positive financial results.

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

1. THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Report on the Preparation of the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2007-08, as presented.
2. THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the transfer of funds to the Reserve Fund for Working Funds for the year 2007-08, as follows:
 - \$3,789,695 to the Reserve for Working Funds (to balance the Financial Statements of the Board for Ministry of Education compliance purposes)
3. THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the transfer of funds to the Pupil Accommodation Reserve for the year 2007-08, as follows:
 - \$937,487 to the Pupil Accommodation Reserve (to account for the unspent Capital Grants during the year, in accordance with the regulations).

CARRIED

3. *Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2007-2008*

Director Crocco presented the Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2007-2008 and thanked Superintendent Reich and his staff for the complete and thorough year end financial package.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2007-2008, as presented.

CARRIED

4. *Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 1, 2008*

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 1, 2008, as presented for information.

CARRIED

5. *October 10 and November 7, 2008 Professional Development Day Update*

Robert Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education, called upon Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, to present the October 10 and November 7, 2008 Professional Development Day Update. Mr. Syne presented the report and answered Trustees' questions.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. *General Correspondence*

Nil Report

2. *Correspondence*

Chairperson Nieuwesteeg, in consultation with the Director of Education, indicated that future Board Meeting agendas would combine items D1 - General Correspondence & D2 - Correspondence under one item, Correspondence.

3. *Report on Trustee Conferences Attended*

Nil Report

4. *General Discussion to Plan for Future Action*

Nil Report

5. *Trustee Information*

5.1 *Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - November 14, 2008*

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - November 14, 2008 Issue for Trustees' information.

5.2 Director's Update

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the following items:

- Thursday, November 27, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.
Special Board Meeting - re Collective Agreements
- Tuesday, December 2, 2008
6:00 p.m. - Annual Organizational Meeting
6:40 p.m. (approximate time) - Social with Principal, Vice-Principals and Guests
7:00 p.m. - Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Thursday, December 11, 2008 - 11:30 a.m. (Club Roma, St. Catharines)
Annual Director's Meeting with Bishop James Wingle and Parish Priests
- February 24, 2009 Board Meeting
Dedication of Catholic Education Centre Meeting Rooms
Religious Orders expressed gratitude and will be in attendance for the Dedication
- Father Brian Mosier, Parish Priest of St. Ann Catholic Church in Fenwick, will be joining
Dino Sicoli on the Niagara Catholic District School Board's Faith Formation Team

6. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

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 9:45 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of November 25, 2008.
CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

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 October 28, 2008, as presented.
CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
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 A: Student Trustees Present of November 11, 2008, as presented.
CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

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 October 28, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
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 November 11, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in the Item F6 of the In Camera Agenda, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F6)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the tentative Collective Agreement for the Occasional Teachers of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) Niagara Unit, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F8.1)

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the tentative Collective Agreement for the Elementary Teachers of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) Niagara Unit, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F8.2)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the tentative Collective Agreement for the Secondary Teachers of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) Niagara Unit, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F8.3)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the tentative Collective Agreement for CUPE, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F8.4)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the amendments to the Terms and Conditions of Employment for Controller of Plant, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F10.1)

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the amendments to the Terms and Conditions of Employment for the Senior Administrator of Human Resources Services, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F10.2)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the November 25, 2008, meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on November 25, 2008.

Approved on the 16th day of December 2008.

Ed Nieuwesteeg
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer