



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, 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 6:50 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

#### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 6:50 p.m. and reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

##### 1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by (Most Rev.) James M. Wingle, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines.

##### 2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of February 24, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau		✓
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
<b>Student Trustees</b>		
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; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

Chairperson Burtnik welcomed all those in attendance to the Special Board Meeting. She said that the meeting was a special Celebration of the past, present and future during which the Catholic Education Centre Meeting Rooms would be dedicated to the Founding Religious Orders for Catholic Education in Niagara. A special welcome was extended to (Most Rev.) James M. Wingle, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines and Honorary Chairperson of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; Fr. Jim Mulligan, Fr. John Vickers, Fr. Rheel LeBlanc, Fr. Don Layden, Fr. Norman Bordage, Fr. Edward Baird and Brother Ron Rumbboth of the Holy Cross Fr.s; Sr. Mary Heather McKinnon, Sr. Eileen Donohoe, Sr. Gloria Seifried, Sr. Irene Freeman and Sr. Barbara Frank of the School Sisters of Notre Dame; Sr. Patricia Conway, Sr. Loretta Rollheiser, Sr. Helen Kluge, Sr. Kathleen Conway and Sr. Anne Schenck of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Sr. Joan Quinn of the Sisters of Holy Cross; Sr. Cecilia Ann Fatula, Sr. Corrine Giel, Sr. Concepta Fudala and Sr. Teresa Margaret Bransky of the Vincentian Sisters of Charity, Eileen McCarthy and Ann Libertini representing the Sisters of St. Martha who could not be in attendance; SM Blaise Podruczny, SM Celestine Giertych, SM Jean Romanowicz, SM Teresa Forma, SM Marilyn Stata and SM Jacque Keefe of the Felician Sisters; Sr. Johanna D'Agostino, Sr. Mary Kay Camp of the Loretto Sisters; and Don Lefebvre, former Trustee, Superintendent, and co-author of "Catholic Education a Gift from the Past, a Present for the Future".

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Moved by Trustee Belcastro  
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of February 24, 2009, 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 Meetings*

5.1 *January 27, 2009*

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

5.2 *February 17, 2009*

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 17, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5.3 February 18, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 18, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5.4 February 23, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 23, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Fishers of Men - Serra International**

Frank Fera, Vice-Chairperson of the Niagara Catholic District School and President of the Serra Club of St. Catharines gave a brief history on the Serra International Group of dedicated Catholic men and women devoted to supporting the priesthood and religious life. The Serra Club of St. Catharines which Bishop Wingle consecrated in September 2008 currently has 28 members and is actively seeking new members. The Serra Club meets monthly to celebrate Mass and discuss business items and ways of assisting future priests.

On behalf of the Serrans, Vice-Chairperson Fera thanked Bishop James Wingle for his spiritual direction and Director Crocco for his assistance and cooperation as the Serrans strive to enhance priesthood and religious life in this community.

Bishop Wingle expressed his pleasure at being able to view the video titled "Fishers of Men" with those in attendance, and spoke of the dedicated group of men and women who form the Serra Club of St. Catharines.

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. School Excellence Program - St. Edward Catholic Elementary School**

Director Crocco gave brief background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education introduced Andy Cipro, Principal of St. Edward Catholic Elementary School.

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

The St. Edward Catholic Elementary School Choir performed for the Board.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked Principal Cipro, the staff and students for their presentation and performance. The students were presented with Niagara Catholic District School Board highlighters.

2. *Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations*

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009:

2.1 *Funding of Capital Projects*

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect the FRP Grants accumulated in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$8,474,683 and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect a portion of the funds accumulated in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$3,240,000, and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to continue to limit the annual Facility Renewal Program Expenditures, so the annual unspent amount of \$1,000,000 of the Facility Renewal Program Grants can be deposited in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR-FRP) until the year 2029-30, in order to fund future debenture payments, including \$327,922 for Facility Renewal Projects completed prior to August 31, 2006, and to fund additional Facility Renewal Program capital projects, as approved by the Board in the future.

**CARRIED**

2.2 *Financial Reports*

2.2.1 *Monthly Banking Transactions*

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2009, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

2.2.2 *Statement of Revenue & Expenditures*

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

3. *Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars: 2009-2010*

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, presented the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars: 2009-2010. Trustees and Senior Staff discussed a September 1, 2009 start date in order to meet the required minimum of 194 school days.

Trustee Crole moved the following amendment to the recommendation.

Moved by Trustee Crole  
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that the motion be amended to add the following words: That fiscal alignment with the Niagara Student Transportation Services be in place as a condition of Board approval.

**CARRIED**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2009-2010 school year, and

THAT fiscal alignment with the Niagara Student Transportation Services be in place as a condition of Board approval.

**CARRIED**

4. *Staff Development Department - Professional Development Opportunities*

Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education, introduced Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, who presented the report on Staff Development Professional Development Opportunities.

5. *Long Term Financing of Approved Capital Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2009*

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the report on the Long Term Financing of Approved Capital Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2009.

Moved by Trustee Fera  
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Borrowing By-Law and Related Documents with respect to the issue of long term financing of Good Places to Learn Projects (Stage 3) completed prior to August 31, 2008 for a total amount of \$4,683,110, as follows:

By-Law Number 2009-A1 - A By-Law to authorize a Loan from the Ontario Financing Authority in the principal amount of \$4,683,110, for the long term financing of Good Places to Learn Projects (Stage 3) completed up to August 31, 2008, to be amortized over 25 years at the interest rate of 5.602%, repayable in semi-annual payments of \$166,736.12.

**CARRIED**

6. *Dedication of Catholic Education Centre Meeting Rooms to our Founding Religious Orders*

Director Crocco spoke to the Dedication of Catholic Education Centre Meeting Rooms to our Founding Religious Orders. He outlined that the that process consisted of consultation with staff in the Fall of this year, and the approval of the Board to dedicate the Board Room and eight meeting rooms at the Catholic Education Center to Father Kenneth Burns csc and the founding eight Religious Orders in Niagara.

Director Crocco stated that Niagara Catholic's Excellence in Catholic Education is rooted in the foundation of those who have pioneered before us. Each of the founding Religious Orders provided the Board with a combination of a crucifix and photograph representing their Order, along with

historical background on their Order for a historical plaque. These items have been placed in the dedicated room to honour the contributions of Father Burns and the Religious Orders to Catholic Education in Niagara.

Earlier in the day the founding Religious Orders also participated in the filming of a DVD biography on their Order and the history of involvement in founding Catholic Education in Niagara. A compilation of each filmed biography will be integrated into two new units of study currently in the writing process on Catholic Education in Niagara. Beginning in September 2009, the two new units will be taught annually to all Grade 7 and Grade 10 students throughout Niagara Catholic.

Following a video providing a brief historical background on each of the Religious Orders and Father Burns, Bishop James Wingle officially dedicated the Board Room to Father Kenneth Burns. The Holy Cross Fathers joined Bishop Wingle, Director Crocco and Trustees for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The following spoke on behalf of their Religious Orders: Fr. John Vickers on behalf of Fr. Kenneth Burns and the Holy Cross Community; Sr. Barbara Frank - School Sisters of Notre Dame; Sr. Patricia Conway - Sisters of St. Joseph; Sr. Joan Quinn - Sisters of Holy Cross; Sr. Corrine Giel - Vincentian Sisters of Charity; Eileen McCarthy - retired teacher who spoke on behalf of the Sisters of St. Martha who could not be in attendance; SM Celestine Giertych - Felician Sisters; Sr. Johanna D'Agostino - Loretto Sisters.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked all the Religious Orders for their enthusiasm and words of inspiration and praise.

The following official blessings and room dedications took place after the Board Meeting adjourned:  
Trustees Lounge - Holy Cross Community  
Room 257 - School Sisters of Notre Dame  
Room 258 - Sisters of St. Joseph  
Room 259 - Sisters of Holy Cross  
Computer Lab - Vincentian Sisters of Charity  
Solarium - Sisters of St. Martha  
Program Meeting Room - Felician Sisters  
Cafeteria - Loretto Sisters

## D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

Nil Report

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Nil Report

4. Board Submission to Governance Review Committee

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Board's Submission on the Ontario School Board Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Consultation Paper to the Governance Review Committee, as presented.

**CARRIED**

5. Trustee Information

5.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - February 10, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - February 10, 2009 issue for trustees' information.

5.2 Second Annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast 2009  
Monday, April 20, 2009 - Club Italia, Niagara Falls, 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m

Director Crocco informed Trustees of the Second Annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast.

5.3 Trustee & Senior Staff Retreat  
Thursday, February 26, 2009 - Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 5:00 p.m.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the Trustees and Senior Staff Retreat with Bishop Wingle.

6. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

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 24, 2009.

**CARRIED**

**SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee Dekker  
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

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 27, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Dekker  
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

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 10, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

**SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi  
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 January 27, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

**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 10, 2009, 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 24, 2009:

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F5.1 of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - Section B: Students Trustees Excluded of February 10, 2009.

**CARRIED (Item F5.1)**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that Carla Bianco, Theo Dagenais, Jeff Lafontaine, Kevin Lamb, Margaret Marion be assigned to the Principal Pool (Elementary) for a period of two years, effective February 24, 2009, and

**THAT** Amanda Cybula, Mary Kay Kalagain and Angela Villella have their respective terms extended until February 24, 2011.

**CARRIED (Item F5.2)**

## **H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

### **I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE**

### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the February 24, 2009, meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on February 24, 2009.

Approved on the 31st day of March 2009.

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer