



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, March 31, 2009, 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 Chairperson Burtnik.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Nieuwesteeg from attending the Board Meeting of March 31, 2009.

CARRIED

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; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of March 31, 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 Meeting of February 24, 2009*

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

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

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. *OFSAA Medalists*

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Ken Griepsma, Vice-Principal of Denis Morris Catholic High School, who presented information on OFSAA Gold Medalists Wrestling Champions Marissa Sorrell and Joshua Hipperon and introduced coaches Megan Schweitzer and Eugene Aeillo.

Chairperson Burtnik congratulated the students on their dedication to the sport of wrestling and asked Trustees Charbonneau and Scalzi to presented them with Niagara Catholic pins of Athletic Excellence.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. *School Excellence Program - St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School*

Director Crocco gave brief background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Superintendent Iannantuono welcomed Mark Lefebvre, Principal of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Lefebvre introduced the St. Vincent de Paul School Improvement Team who showcased the School.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked Principal Lefebvre and the Team for their presentation and their dedication to the students of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School.

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

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Fera

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

CARRIED

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

2.1 *Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report & Recommendations*

Director Crocco presented the Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report & Recommendations.

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board in accordance with the Board approved Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009 the *Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary*, be received.

THAT the following recommendations by Senior Staff as provided in the *Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary* be received and considered for approval at the May 26th, 2009 Board Meeting;

1. THAT, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School be closed by September 2010 with St. Joseph students relocated through the Attendance Area process to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.
2. THAT, no sooner than September 2012 and subject to Ministry of Education funding and approval for a new school in the Warren Woods Estate and for an addition and renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, the closure of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School with the students relocated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.
3. THAT, over the next five years Senior Staff will monitor student population growth, projections, location and accommodation data in the southern portion of the City of Niagara Falls and if required, apply to the Ministry of Education for capital funding for a new elementary school in the Warren Woods Estate of Niagara Falls.
4. THAT, a Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls.
5. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.

6. THAT, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School not be consolidated at this time subject to the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review process and recommendations and that Senior Staff continues to monitor enrolment and report back to the Board no later than September 2012.
7. THAT, no later than September 2012, the closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School with students relocated through the Attendance Area process to Mother Teresa, St. Alfred, St. Anthony, St. Christopher and St. Denis Catholic Elementary Schools unless an approved joint venture is confirmed between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and a coterminous District School Board, with the City of St. Catharines to provide confirmed property in the downtown core, and the Ministry of Education to provide confirmed funding and approval for a new downtown elementary school.
8. THAT, a St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines.
9. THAT, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitors the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
10. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding and to identify other sources of funding in order to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.
11. THAT, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.

CARRIED

2.2 Financial Reports

2.2.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Dekker
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

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

CARRIED

2.2.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Dekker
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at February 28, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 7, 2009

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 7, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

4. *Senior Staff Response to Correspondence Received Between February 10th, 2009 and March 6th, 2009 as Provided in the Senior Staff Follow-up Report and Recommendations to the March 10th, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting*

Director Crocco presented the Senior Staff Response to Correspondence Received Between February 10th, 2009 and March 6th, 2009 as Provided in the Senior Staff Follow-up Report and Recommendations to the March 10th, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT in accordance with the Board approved Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009 the *Senior Staff Response to Correspondence Received Between February 10th, 2009 and March 6th, 2009 as provided in the Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary*, be received by the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

CARRIED

5. *Extended Overnight Field Trip/Excursion/Exchange Trip Information*

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

6. *2009-2010 School Year Calendar*

Director Crocco introduced the report on the 2009-2010 School Year Calendar. Superintendent Iannantuono presented information on the report stating that an extensive vetting process took place in early February after which time the School Year Calendar was presented to the Board for approval and forwarded to the Ministry of Education for approval. After feedback from the Niagara Catholic District School Board Community, Senior Staff proposed that the February 24, 2009 motion be rescinded and that a recommendation be put forward to have the first day of school for secondary and elementary students as Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board rescind the February 24, 2009 Board approved motion:

"THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Calendar for the 2009-2010 school year.

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

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Calendar for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented on March 31, 2009, and

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

CARRIED

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 Thank You Letters

- *Sister Mary Kay Camp*
- *School Sisters of Notre Dame*
- *English Canadian Holy Cross Fathers*
- *Holy Cross Fathers*

1.2 OCSTA - Nominations for Regional Director Positions - 2009 AGM

Trustee Charbonneau nominated Chairperson Burtnik for the position of Regional Director for OCSTA.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board support the nomination of Kathy Burtnik for the position of OCSTA Regional Director for Region 11.

CARRIED

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

3.1 Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report & Recommendations

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - March 10, 2009

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

4.2 Loretto Sisters 400th Anniversary Dinner

Director Crocco presented information on the Loretto Sisters 400th Anniversary Dinner. Trustees were asked to notify Sherry Morena if they will be attending the Celebration.

4.3 Aboriginal Education Initiatives Information Sharing and Dinner Evening

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the information on the Aboriginal Education Initiatives Information Sharing and Dinner Evening. Trustees were asked to notify Sherry Morena if they will be attending the event.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Fera
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 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee ScalZI

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of March 31, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Crole
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 March February 24, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

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 A: Student Trustees Present of March 10, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

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 February 24, 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 March 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 March 10, 2009:

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointments of Sheri Bassett, Maria Solomon, Joe Tornabuono and Jackie Watson to the Elementary Vice-Principal Pool for a period of two years, effective March 31, 2009, and

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve an extension for Carmen Lucisano and Rosanne Sandel to the Elementary Vice-Principal Pool for an additional period of two years effective, March 31, 2009.

CARRIED (Item F5.1.1)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of Andrew Bartley and Lou Stranges to the Secondary Vice-Principal Pool for a period of two years, effective March 31, 2009.

CARRIED (Item F5.1.2)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the March 31, 2009 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on March 31, 2009.

Approved on the 28th day of April 2009.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer