



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 2, 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 7:25 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Fera.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

#### 1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Vice-Chairperson Fera.

Bishop James Wingle congratulated Chairperson Burtnik and Vice-Chairperson Fera and on their new elected positions. He thanked Trustee Nieuwesteeg and Trustee Dekker for their leadership over the past few years, and to all of the Trustees for their commitment to Catholic Education.

#### 2. Roll Call

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; **Rob Ciarlo**, **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **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

Special Guest: **Bishop James Wingle**; **Bill Amadio**, Board Solicitor

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 2, 2008, 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 November 11, 2008*

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 11, 2008, as presented.

**CARRIED**

## B. PRESENTATIONS

## C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. *Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary*

Director Crocco, in compliance with the Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule - 2008-2009, presented the Senior Staff report on the Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary. He stated that the Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and the St. Catharines Secondary Accommodation Review Committees (ARC) and the Pupil Accommodation Review process were in compliance with the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines and the Niagara Catholic District School Board Policy 701.2 - Closure of Schools/Accommodation Review Policy.

Director Crocco presented the recommendations of the Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary Accommodation Review Committees reports, and the recommendations of Senior Staff following subsequent review and research by Administrative Council. The Senior Staff report is the first report to the Board by Senior Staff in the process towards a final decision by the Board on May 26, 2009.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that as part of an open and transparent process, the Staff Report is not only linked to the December 2, 2008 Committee of the Whole portion of the Board Website, but its is also linked to the Pupil Accommodation Review tab on the home page of the Board Website.

Trustees asked questions for clarification and discussed the Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary report.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that in accordance with the Board approved Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009 the Staff Report on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary, be received.

**CARRIED**

2. *Student Support Services "Sharing Promising Practices"  
A Resource Guide: Kindergarten to Grade 4*

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Marcel Jacques, Program Officer - Student Support Services, who presented the report on the Student Support Services "Sharing Promising Practices" A Resource Guide: Kindergarten to Grade 4.

3. *Collaborative Inquiry for Learning Mathematics*

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, introduced Christine Graham, Program Officer: Curriculum, and Sheri Bassett, Junior Program Consultant. Ms. Graham and Ms. Bassett presented an overview on the Collaborative Inquiry for Learning Mathematics report.

4. *Leading Student Achievement Initiative 2008-2009*

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, introduced Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects, who presented the report on Leading Student Achievement Initiative 2008-2009

Christine Curran, Principal of St. Therese Catholic Elementary School, Port Colborne, Dan Trainor, Principal of St. James Catholic Elementary School and Lisa Selman, Principal of Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School, spoke of the positive effects they have experienced as a result of initiative.

5. *Monthly Updates*

9.1 *Policy Development Update*

The Policy Development Update was presented for information.

9.2 *Student Trustees' Update*

Christina Volpini, Student Trustee, gave a brief verbal update on the activities of the Student Senate.

9.3 *Family of Schools Superintendents' Monthly Update*

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

**D. INFORMATION**

1. *Trustee Information*

1.1 *Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - November 25, 2008*

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - November 25, 2008, issue for Trustees' information.

1.2 *OCSTA 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference*

Director Crocco presented the OCSTA 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference Package to the Trustees.

1.3 *Trustees' Retreat*

Director Crocco updated Trustees' on the upcoming Trustees' Retreat being held at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre on February 26, 2009 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

1.4 *Directors' Meeting Lunch*

Director Crocco invited Trustees to attend the Annual Director's Meeting and Priests, Principals Advent Celebration on December 11, 2008 at Club Roma at 11:30 a.m.

**E. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. *General Discussion to Plan for Future Action*

Nil Report

On behalf of the Board, Chairperson Burtnik thanked Bishop Wingle for his continued presence and support.

**F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

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 9:15 p.m. and reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

**G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 2, 2008.

**CARRIED**

**SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

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 November 11, 2008, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

## **SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Crole

**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 November 11, 2008, 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 Scalzi

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F5 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the December 2, 2008 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on December 2, 2008.

Approved on the 13th day of January 2009.

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Frank Fera  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer