



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 15, 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 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Charbonneau.

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 Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of December 15, 2009, as amended.

ADDITION TO THE PUBLIC AGENDA

ITEM 4.6 – Trustee Information - Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction

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 November 24, 2009

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

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

CARRIED

5.2 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board – December 1, 2009

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board Meeting of December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS

1. Saint Paul Catholic High School Choir

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Mike Lostracco, Principal of Saint Paul Catholic High School, who introduced the Saint Paul Catholic High School Choir.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked the students for their very entertaining performance and asked Trustees Nieuwesteeg and Fera to presented the students with Niagara Catholic “Excellence in the Arts” pins.

2. Christmas Card Presentation to Students

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, presented information of the contribution of Niagara Catholic students in the design of the Board’s Christmas cards for 2009. She explained that students within the Board were invited to submit artwork for use on the cards, and that specific cards are chosen to be used by the Board.

Director Crocco, Chairperson Burtnik, and Vice-Chairperson Dekker, presented each of the students with a box of Christmas Cards containing their designs.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program – Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells introduced Domenic Massi, Principal of Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Massi, with the assistance of students and staff showcased Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

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

2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 1, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 1, 2009.

2.1 Approval of Policies

2.1.1 Accessibility Customer Service Policy

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Accessibility Customer Service Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

2.1.2 Safe Physical Intervention with Students Policy

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Safe Physical Intervention with Students Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

**2.2 *St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Report***

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the following recommendations:

1. **THAT**, no changes are made to the St. Catharines elementary and secondary school boundaries at this time.
2. **THAT**, the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board continue to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines, in compliance with the May 26th, 2009, Board approved, Pupil Accommodation Review motions.
3. **THAT**, new requests for attendance area exceptions will be reviewed in accordance with Board Policy/Guidelines 301.1, Admission of Students. Attendance area exceptions will not be granted to students who wish to attend Mother Teresa and Canadian Martyrs except for the purpose of keeping siblings together within the same school.
4. **THAT**, Senior Staff will review Board Policy/Guidelines 301.1, Admission of Students, within the current Policy and Administrative Guideline Review Process.

CARRIED

**3. *Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meetings***

3.1 Approved Minutes of November 23, 2009

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of November 23, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

3.2 Unapproved Minutes of November 26, 2009

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of November 26, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

**4. Minutes of the St of Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/
St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meetings**

4.1 Approved Minutes of November 23, 2009

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of November 23, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4.2 Unapproved Minutes of November 26, 2009

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of November 26, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

**5. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting
of November 4, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Crole
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of November 4, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

6. Elementary Lego Competition and Secondary Boat Races - Skills Ontario

Superintendent Baldasaro welcomed Mark Lefebvre, Administrator – School Effectiveness Framework, and Marco Magazzeni, K-12 Technology/Specialist High Skills Major Consultant, who presented the report on the Elementary Lego Competition and Secondary Boat Races - Skills Ontario.

A team of four (4) students from Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary Schools designed and constructed a cardboard boat which participated in a race and weight challenge at the Cardboard Boat Race held in Toronto. The Skills Ontario Cardboard Boat Races provided students with the opportunity test their math and technology skills in a fun and interactive environment

Nine (9) of Niagara Catholic's Elementary Schools participated in the FIRST LEGO League (FLL), which is a program that engages younger children in playful and meaningful learning while helping them to discover the fun in science and technology. St. Denis Catholic's "Saints in Motion" placed first in Project Award and will advance to the Provincial Tournament in Oshawa.

The following schools also received awards; Robot Performance – 2nd Place – St. Denis Catholic’s “Saints in Motion”; Project Award – 2nd Place – St. Alexander Catholic’s “Smart Alex”; Teamwork – 3rd Place – St. James Catholic’s “NetNerds”; Rookie of the Year – St. Anthony Catholic’s “Knights”; Young Mentor Award – St. Mary Catholic’s “St. Mary Steel Steeds” (Welland); Against All Odds Award – St. Michael Catholic’s “Lightening”.

7. Director’s Annual Report 2009

Director Crocco presented the report on the newly formatted Director’s Annual Report 2009 for information. He stated that the 2009 Annual Report contains all of the information as required by the Minister of Education on Program and Services in 2009, and extended appreciation to Senior Staff and Jennifer Brailey for their contributions and design of the Annual Report.

Copies of the Director’s Annual Report 2009 will be sent to the Ministry of Education, Bishop Wingle and various partners in Catholic education.

8. Trustee Honorarium for the Year 2009-2010

Director Crocco presented the report on Trustee Honorarium for the Year 2009-2010 noting that in accordance with Ontario Regulation 357/07 Trustee honorariums are adjusted annually based on student enrolment from the previous school year. He stated that new honorarium for all Trustees for the 2009-2010 school year will be slightly less due to the enrolment decrease of 255.86 students.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive and approve the report on the Trustee Honorarium for the period from December 1, 2009 to November 30, 2010.

CARRIED

9. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management

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

10. Revised Budget Estimates for the Year 2009-2010

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented the report on the Revised Budget Estimates for the Year 2009-2010. Superintendent Reich informed Trustees that the purpose of the Revised Budget Estimates is to give School Boards the opportunity to revise their budgets with up-to-date information prior to submission to the Ministry of Education.

Superintendent Reich highlighted the major changes in the Budget Estimates and stated that Senior Staff is pleased to present a balanced budget with a transfer of \$1,475,125 from the Reserve for Working Funds which may be augmented by additional revenue from an upcoming efficiency review.

Trustees asked questions for clarification.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive and approve the report on the Revised Budget Estimates for the Year 2009-2010, as presented.

CARRIED

11. Financial Reports

11.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

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

CARRIED

11.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at November 30, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 Father E. Baird - Thank You Letter re Year for Priests Dinner

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 – December 1, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 1, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

4.2 Calendar of Events – January 2010

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

4.3 Ministry of Education Information – Bill 177

Director Crocco presented information from the Ministry of Education regarding Bill 177, for Trustees' information.

**4.4 Father Vickers – Letter of Thanks to Denis Morris Catholic High School
Naming of Peace Garden in Honour of Father Fogarty**

Director Crocco presented the Letter of Thanks to Denis Morris Catholic High School regarding the Naming of Peace Garden in Honour of Father Fogarty from Father Vickers.

4.5 Jane M. Gouck - Thank You for the Gift of Catholic Education

Director Crocco presented the Thank You for the Gift of Catholic Education from Jane M. Gouck for Trustees' information.

4.6 Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, presented information on the recipients of the 2010 Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction as nominated by members of the community and chosen by the Selection Committee. Les Soeurs du Sacré-Coeur de Jésus de St. Jacut and Father James Mulligan, c.s.c. of the Holy Cross Fathers are the recipients for 2010.

Director Crocco has contacted both recipients and they have expressed their honour at being selected to receive the Niagara Catholic Award of Distinction.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
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 8:50 p.m. and reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of December 15, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

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 A: Student Trustees Present of November 24, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

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 December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

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 November 24, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

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 B: Student Trustees Excluded of December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the December 15, 2009 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held **December 15, 2009.**

Approved on the **12th** day of **January 2010.**

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer