



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2009**

---

---

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, September 29, 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 Trustee Dekker.

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>		
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; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of September 29, 2009, as amended:

**ADDITION TO THE PUBLIC AGENDA**

ITEM B1 – St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School

ITEM B2 – OFSSA Medalist – Notre Dame College School

**DELETION FROM THE PUBLIC AGENDA**

ITEM B2 – OFSSA Medalist – Denis Morris Catholic High School

**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 **June 16, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 16, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

5.2 **June 22, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of June 22, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

1. **St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School**

Director Crocco welcomed a delegation of staff, Catholic School Council members and friends from St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School.

Trustees, Director Crocco and Senior Staff recognized and honored Principal Enrico Schirru, Teacher Bryan Caldwell, and parents who saved the lives of students at the Annual Wainfleet Fall Fair Parade last week when a vintage car following behind the students lost its braking ability and began to drive directly towards the students. Mr. Caldwell attempted to stop the car while Principal Schirru and other staff members of St. Elizabeth successfully moved students out of the way of the vehicle.

2. **OFSSA Medalists**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, called upon Michael Sheahan, Physical Education Consultant, who presented information on the OFSSA Medalists being recognized at the Board meeting.

- ***Saint Paul Catholic High School***  
Student Matthew Diston - OFSSA Gold Medalist - Senior Boys' Pole Vault
- ***Notre Dame College School***  
Grade 12 student Zack Frey – Gold Medalist - 72kg Senior Single - Canadian Secondary School Rowing Assoc Regatta

Chairperson Burtnik congratulated the students on their accomplishments. The students were presented with a Niagara Catholic “Excellence in Athletics” pins in honor of their achievements.

3. **Specialist High Skills Major – Niagara Catholic Motorsports Championship**

Superintendent Baldasaro called upon Marco Magazenni, Technology/Specialist High Skills Major Consultant, to present information on the Specialist High Skills Major - Niagara Catholic Motorsports Championship. The Niagara Catholic District School Board race car which was completely designed and built by students and driven by technician Aaron Vasas, experienced a very successful inaugural racing season at Humberstone Speedway. All monies won by the race team in recognition of their various Championship Races were donated to local charities.

## C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. **School Excellence Program – Loretto Catholic Elementary School**

Director Crocco gave brief background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Superintendent of Education Forsyth-Sells introduced Terry Antoniou, Principal of Loretto Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Antoniou with the assistance of students and staff showcased Loretto Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

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

2. **Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of 15, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations**

---

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 15, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 15, 2009.

**2.1 Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan Facilitator**

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the selection of Maria Sanchez-Keane of the Centre for Organizational Effectiveness as the facilitator for the Strategic Plan Development phase of the design of Niagara Catholic's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan at a projected cost as approved in the 2009-2010 Annual Budget.

**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 months of June, July and August 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 August 31, 2009, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 3, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 3, 2009, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**3.1 Appointment to S.E.A.C.**

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of Dianne Radunsky as a representative of Ontario Brain Injury Association to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

**CARRIED**

**4. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management**

Director Crocco presented the update on the H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management. He informed Trustees that the Board is in the process of installing additional hand sanitizer dispensers in every elementary and secondary school which are located in corridors outside of each Library Information Centre, Computer Lab and Instrumental Music Classroom.

The Plant Department has directed caretakers and cleaners to ensure that all doorknobs, railings, desks and commonly touched hard surfaces are disinfected twice daily, once during the day and at the end of the day in preparation for the next school day.

**5. Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Primary and Junior Provincial Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics and Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics – 2008-2009**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells and Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects, presented a summary of the report on the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Primary and Junior Provincial Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics and Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics – 2008-2009.

Trustees asked questions of staff.

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

**1. Correspondence**

**1.1 Carousel Players – Thank You Letter for Support of Niagara Artists**

Director Crocco presented a letter from the Carousel Players complimenting and thanking Niagara Catholic District School Board FSL/ELS/Music Consultant Jayne Evans for her work in supporting the Niagara Artists in the classroom

**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 – September 15, 2009**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – September 15, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

**4.2 Calendar of Events – September 2009**

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events – September 2009 for Trustees' information.

#### **4.3 Defibrillators**

Director Crocco gave a verbal report on the Board's investigation regarding the purchase of defibrillators for the all secondary schools in the system, and the result of being in final negotiations with a foundation who will provide the units as well as training for staff members.

Currently, Saint Paul Catholic Secondary School and Loretto Catholic Elementary School have the portable units which were provided through the generosity of a family in the Niagara Catholic system who's child died a number of years ago.

#### **4.4 Establishment of Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committees**

Director Crocco gave a verbal report on the establishment of Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committees for St. Catharines and Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Schools and for St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools, based upon Pupil Accommodation Review recommendations presented to the Board on June 16, 2009.

The Director suggested that the Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committees for St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools and Niagara Falls be incorporated given the boundaries are adjacent to Niagara Falls.

The procedure to be followed was outlined, with the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Committees meeting as a whole, followed by school clustered meetings with the Catholic School Councils and school communities. The Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committees would meet again to consider the feedback, and be followed by a town hall meeting to present the recommendations to the entire community. A final report will be presented at the January 2010 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Trustees Burtnik, Charbonneau and Scalzi volunteered to sit on the St. Catharines Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee be combined with the St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee, and

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that the final report of the Attendance Area Review Ad Hoc Committee be presented to the Board through the Committee of the Whole no later and January 2010.

**CARRIED**

Trustees Dekker, Fera and Nieuwesteeg volunteered to sit on the Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting- Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools,

#### **4.5 Mentor Connector Steering Committee**

Director Crocco gave a verbal report on the Mentor Connector Steering Committee and stated that Niagara Catholic will be offering the Mentor Connector Program system wide to all Grades 7 – 10 students in place of the Provincial Homework Help Model.

The Committee will include the Director of Education as the Chair of the Committee, one Trustee, one Superintendent of Education, Federation representation, a Student Success Leader, a Consultant, the Board's Chief Technology Officer, Elementary and Secondary Principals, and University Representation consisting of Deans and Professors. Trustee Dekker volunteered to sit on the Committee with Trustee Charbonneau as backup.

**4.6 OCSTA Update**

Chairperson Burtnik presented a verbal update on OCSTA.

**4.7 OCSTA - 2010 AGM & Conference – Resolutions**

Chairperson Burtnik presented information on the OCSTA - 2010 AGM & Conference and Resolutions.

**5. Open Question Period**

None Submitted

**E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
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 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 9:10 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 September 29, 2009.

**CARRIED**

**SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro  
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 June 16, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro  
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 September 19, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

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

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Fera

**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 June 16, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee

**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 September 15, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

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

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

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the September 29, 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 **September 29, 2009**.

Approved on the **27th** day of **October 2009**.

---

Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

---

John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer